

05-04-2000

In place of Form PTO-1595



DOCKET NO. 1009JJ-37536

101344436

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Mitchell D. Pinckard

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):

Noble Drilling Services, Inc.
580 Westlake Park Blvd., Suite 800
Houston, Texas 77079

3. Nature of conveyance:

☒ Assignment

Execution Date(s): April 10, 2000

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: April 10, 2000

A. Patent Application No.(s)

B. Patent No.(s)

C. Attorney Docket No.

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

JONATHAN E. JOBE, JR.
FELSMAN, BRADLEY, VADEN, GUNTER & DILLON, LLP
201 MAIN STREET, SUITE 1600
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. ☐ Authorized to be charged to deposit account

☒ Check enclosed

8. Deposit Account Number: 06-0580

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9. Statement and signature.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

Christa King

Name of Person Signing

Christa King

Signature

4-17-00

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: 4

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PATENT
REEL: 010746 FRAME: 0304

10675 U.S. PTO
09/550928
04/17/00

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, the undersigned inventor, hereinafter called the "Assignor," has invented a new and useful invention entitled:

METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR OPTIMIZING RATE OF PENETRATION BASED UPON CONTROL VARIABLE CORRELATION

for which reference a full description is here made in an application for Letters Patent of the United States filed herewith.

WHEREAS, Noble Drilling Services, Inc., a corporation of the State of Delaware, having a place of business at Houston, Texas, hereinafter called the "Assignee," is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention, the application above identified, and in, to and under Letters Patent which may be obtained for said invention, as hereinafter more fully set forth;

NOW, THEREFORE, TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, be it known that for valuable and legally sufficient consideration, the receipt of which by the Assignor from the Assignee is hereby acknowledged, the Assignor has sold, assigned and transferred, and by these presents does sell, assign and transfer unto the Assignee, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention and the application herein above identified, and all Letters Patent that may issue for the said invention, and all divisions, reissues, substitutions, continuations, and extensions thereof, to have and to hold for the sole and exclusive use and benefit of the Assignee, its successors and assigns to the full end of the term for which any and all of said Letters Patents for the said invention may issue.

FURTHER, be it known that the Assignor has sold, assigned and transferred, and by these presents does sell, assign and transfer unto the Assignee, its successors and assigns, the entire foreign rights to the invention disclosed in said application, in all countries of the world, including the right to file applications and obtain patents under the terms of the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, and of the European Patent Convention, and further agrees to execute any and all patent applications, assignments, affidavits, and any other papers in connection therewith necessary to perfect such patent rights.

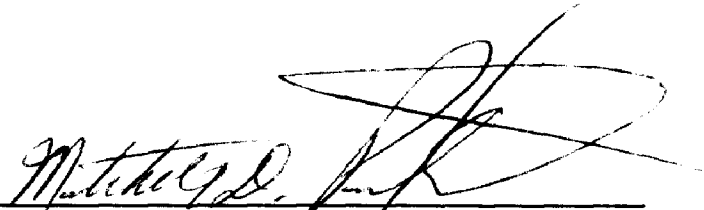
And the Assignor does hereby covenant and agree, for himself and his legal representatives, that they will assist the Assignee in the prosecution of the

application herein identified; in the making and prosecution of any other applications for Letters Patent that the Assignee may elect to make covering the invention herein identified, as herein before set forth, including any application for reissue, application for reexamination, application for foreign patent rights, or any proceeding in the United States Patent and Trademark Office affecting the invention, investing in the Assignee exclusive title in and to all such other applications and Letters Patent; and in the prosecution of any interference which may arise involving said invention, or any application or Letters Patent herein contemplated; that they will promptly execute and deliver to the Assignee any and all additional papers and make all lawful oaths which may be requested by the Assignee to fully carry out the terms of this assignment; and further that they will communicate to Assignee, or to its successors, assigns, and legal representatives, any facts known respecting said invention, and at the expense of the Assignee, testify in any legal proceedings, and generally do everything possible to aid the Assignee, its successors, assigns and nominees to obtain and enforce proper patent protection for said invention in all countries.

And the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized and requested to issue Letters Patent to the Assignee in accordance with the terms of the assignment.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the Assignor has hereunto set his hand on the date indicated below.

Dated: 4-10-00



Mitchell D. Pinkard