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

1. Name of conveying party(ies):
Albert Thomas Herrmann
Jörg Fahl

Additional names(s) of conveying party(ies) Yes No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):
RWE-DEA Aktiengesellschaft für
Name: Mineraloel und Chemie
Address: Überseering 40

3. Nature of conveyance:
 Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other _____

Execution Date: 2/22/00 and 2/25/00, respectively

City: D-22297 Hamburg State/Prov.: _____
Country: Fed. Rep. of Germany ZIP: _____

Additional name(s) & address(es) Yes No

4. Application number(s) or registration numbers(s):
If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: 2/22/00&2/25/00, resp.

Patent Application No.	Filing date	B. Patent No.(s)
Additional numbers <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: **1**

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41):.....\$ 40.00

Enclosed - Any excess or insufficiency should be credited or debited to deposit account
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account

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

Name: C. James Bushman
03/03/2000 MCLAYBRO 00000108 09486526
Registration No. 24,810 40.00 DP
Address: Browning Bushman
5718 Westheimer, Suite 1800

City: Houston State/Prov.: Texas
Country: U.S.A. ZIP: 77057

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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.

C. James Bushman
Name of Person Signing

Signature

February 28, 2000
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and

2

D-97010 Pflus

Attorney Docket No.: Müller-15

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS we, Albert Thomas Herrmann and Jörg Fahl, both citizens of the Federal Republic of Germany and residents of Bauomweg 6, D-25715 Averlak, Federal Republic of Germany; and Bertolt-Brecht-Weg 4, D-37197 Hattorf, Federal Republic of Germany, respectively, have made an invention in **ESTERS OF AROMATIC POLYCARBOXYLIC ACIDS WITH 2-ALKYLALKAN-1-OLS** for which we have executed an application for United States Letters Patent on the 22nd day of February, 2000; and the 25th day of February, 2000, respectively;

WHEREAS RWE-DEA Aktiengesellschaft für Mineraloel und Chemie, a corporation of the Federal Republic of Germany, hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE," of Überseering 40, D-22297 Hamburg, Federal Republic of Germany, is desirous of acquiring the same;

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged by us, we have assigned, sold, transferred and set over and by these presents do assign, sell, transfer and set over unto said ASSIGNEE the entire right, title and interest in and to (a) said invention and worldwide rights therein, (b) said application, including all divisions, continuations, continuations-in-part and substitutions thereof, and (c) all United States and foreign patents which shall issue on said inventions, including all reissues, renewals and extensions thereof, for the United States, its territories and possessions and all foreign countries, including the right to file applications for Letters Patent on said invention in any and all foreign countries, the same to be held and enjoyed by said ASSIGNEE, its assigns and successors, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by us, had this assignment and sale not been made.

We covenant and agree that we will, at any time upon the request and at the expense of said ASSIGNEE, execute and deliver any and all papers and do all lawful acts that may be necessary or desirable, in the opinion of said ASSIGNEE, to enable and assist said ASSIGNEE to (a) obtain Letters Patent, both domestic and foreign, on said invention, (b) establish, maintain and secure title in said ASSIGNEE, its successors and assigns, to said invention, application and Letters Patent, including making such title of lawful public record, and (c) defend, establish or otherwise preserve the validity of said Letters Patent against any and all infringers, and perform such other acts as are necessary to give full force and effect to this assignment.

We hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents of the United States to issue all Letters Patent based on said application and all said divisions, continuations, continuations-in-part, reissues, renewals and extension to said ASSIGNEE, its successors and assigns.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we have duly executed this assignment as follows:

Date: 02/22/2000
(month/day/year)

Albert Thomas Herrmann
Albert Thomas Herrmann

Date: 02/25/2000
(month/day/year)

Jörg Fahl
Jörg Fahl