

05-16-2000



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To the Honorable Assistant Secretary and Comm  
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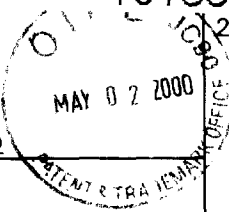
THERMOPLAN AG

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? NO

3. Nature of conveyance:

- Assignment  Merger
- Security Agreement  Change of Name
- Other

Execution Date: March 17, 2000



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

Name: STEINER AG

Street Address: Bärenmatte 3, CH-6403 Küssnacht  
a/Rigi, Switzerland

City: Country:

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? NO

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:

A. Patent Application No.(s)

B. Patent No.(s)

5,957,033, issued September 28, 1999

Additional numbers attached? NO

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

Name: WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P.  
Attn: Jeffrey Nolton, Esq.

Street Address: 2033 K Street, N.W., Suite 800

City: Washington, State: DC ZIP: 20006

6. Total number of applications and patents involved:  
One

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

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8. Deposit account number: 23-0975

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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.

Jeffrey Nolton, Reg. No. 25,408  
Name of Person Signing

May 2, 2000  
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet: 2

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# PATENT ASSIGNMENT AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, THERMOPLAN AG, incorporated under the laws of Switzerland, having its place at Röhrlistr. 215, CH-6353 Weggis, Switzerland (hereinafter the Assignor) is the owner of the US Patent No. 5,957,033, Filing Date 08-30-1996, „COFFEE MACHINE“, and, of the invention as described and claimed therein;

AND WHEREAS, STEINER AG, a corporation incorporated under the laws of Switzerland, having its place of business at Bärenmatte 3, CH-6403 Küssnacht a/Rigi, Switzerland (hereinafter the Assignee) is desirous of acquiring said US Patent No. 5.957.033 and all other rights in and to said invention, and the Assignor has agreed to assign to the Assignee all its right, title and interest in said invention, patent and patent application.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of One U.S. Dollar (US\$ 1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged by the Assignor, the Assignor hereby sells, assigns and transfers to the Assignee all right, title and interest in and to the invention and in and to said patents which may be granted in pursuance of any said application, and in particular, in pursuance of any Patent Cooperation Treaty application listed in the Schedule in and throughout the countries designated therein together with all rights of action, rights of recovery of damages, or compensation powers and benefits to the same belonging or accrued, to hold the invention, patents, and application unto the use of the Assignee, its successors and assigns, absolutely.

The Assignor grants to STEINER AG the power to insert on this assignment any further indication which may be necessary to comply with the requirements of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for its recordal in respect of the above identified Patent.

The Assignor hereby covenants for itself and its successors and assigns to do all such things and to execute without further consideration such further assurances, confirmations and other instruments as may be required to vest the said patents and patent application in the Assignee, its successors and assigns, and to record its ownership in the Patent Offices or other appropriate authorities of the various jurisdictions to which the said patents and patent application relate.

EXECUTED at

this day of 17. march 2000

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

(Corporate Seal)

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

THERMOPLAN AG

STEINER AG

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_