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2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):
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Addit'l. name(s) & address(es) attached Yes No

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If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is:
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09/453,207
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5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:
Elzbieta Chlopecka
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A S S I G N M E N T

WHEREAS, we,

Kazunobu ARAKAWA of c/o NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION, 6-3, Otemachi 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8071 JAPAN

Yasuhiro HATAKEYAMA of c/o NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION, 6-3, Otemachi 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8071 JAPAN and

Takashi OSHIRO of c/o NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION, 6-3, Otemachi 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8071 JAPAN

, respectively, have invented certain improvements in and to

" PERFORMANCE PREDICTIVE APPARATUS AND METHOD

"

and described in the application for United States Letters Patent
 therefore, executed on even date herewith;

WHEREAS,

NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION,

6-3, Otemachi 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8071 JAPAN

(hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE"), is desirous of acquiring the
 entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to
 any Letters Patent that may be granted therefor in the United States and
 its territorial possessions, and in any and all foreign countries and
 all reissues, divisions, continuations, extensions, substitutions and
 renewals thereof;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars
 (\$10.00), the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, and for other good
 and valuable consideration, we, by these presents, do sell, assign and

transfer unto said ASSIGNEES, the full and exclusive right to the said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions, and in all foreign countries and the entire right, title and interest in and to any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor in the United States and its territorial possessions, and in any and all foreign countries, and in and to any and all divisions, reissues, continuations, substitutions, renewals and extensions thereof, and all rights of priority resulting from the filing of said U.S. application.

We hereby authorize and request the Patent Trademark Office officials in the United States and its territorial possessions and any and all foreign countries to issue any and all of said Letters Patent, when granted, to said ASSIGNEES as the assignees of our entire right, title and interest in and to the same, for the sole use and behoof of the said ASSIGNEES, their successors and assigns, to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by us had this assignment and sale not been made.

FURTHER, we agree that we will communicate to said ASSIGNEES or their representatives any facts known to respecting said discovery, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuation, substitute, renewal and reissue applications, execute all necessary assignment papers to cause any and all of said Letters Patent to be issued to said ASSIGNEES, make all rightful oaths, and generally do everything possible to aid said ASSIGNEES, their successors, and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper protection for said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions, and

in any and all foreign countries.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we hereunto set our hands as follows:

Date: November 26, 1999 By: Kazunobu Arakawa
Kazunobu ARAKAWA

Date: November 26, 1999 By: Yasuhiro Hatakeyama
Yasuhiro HATAKEYAMA

Date: November 26, 1999 By: Takashi Oshiro
Takashi OSHIRO