

8.22.00

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Please record the attached original



Attorney Dkt. No.: 9594-2

101456057

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Willy Kussel
Rolf Beils

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No

Name and address of receiving party(ies):

Tiefenbach Bergbautechnik GmbH
Kaninenberghöhe 2
45136 Essen
GERMANY

3. Nature of conveyance:

Assignment
 Merger
 Security Agreement
 Change of Name
 Other _____

Execution Date: July 27, 2000

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

4. Application No. 09/552,059

Patent No. _____

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

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

6. Total number of applications and patents involved:

1

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

James A. Witherspoon
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
P. O. Drawer 34009
Charlotte, NC 28234-4009

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

Enclosed
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number: 16-0605

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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.

James A. Witherspoon, Reg. No. 36,723
Name of Person Signing

James A. Witherspoon _____
Signature Date 8/15/00

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document: 3

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ASSIGNMENT

THIS ASSIGNMENT, made by us, **Willy Kussel**, citizen of Germany, residing at Julius-Leber-Str. 8, 59368 Werne, Germany and **Rolf Beils**, citizen of Germany, residing at Charlottenberg 2, 45289 Essen, Germany, respectively;

WITNESSETH: That,

WHEREAS, we are the joint inventors of certain new and useful improvements in **SEAT AND HOLDING VALVE** for which an application for United States Letters Patent has been filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on April 19, 2000, under Application No. 09/552,059, and

WHEREAS, **TIEFENBACH BERGBAUTECHNIK GMBH**, a German corporation having a principal place of business at Kaninenberghöhe 2, 45136 Essen, Germany, hereinafter referred to as assignee, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention as described in said application, and in and to any and all Letters Patent which shall be granted therefor in the United States of America and all foreign countries;

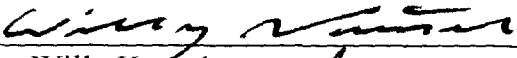
NOW, THEREFORE, To Whom It May Concern, be it known that for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, we have sold and by these presents do hereby sell, assign, transfer, and convey unto the said assignee, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title, and interest in and to the said invention and application, and in and to any and all continuations, continuations-in-part, or divisions thereof, and in and to any and all Letters Patent of the United States of America and all foreign countries or reissues thereof which may be granted therefor or thereon, for the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted, together with the right to claim the priority of said application in all foreign countries in accordance with the International Convention, the same to be held and enjoyed by said assignee, its successors and assigns, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by us if this assignment and sale had not been made.

We hereby request that said Letters Patent be issued in accordance with this assignment.

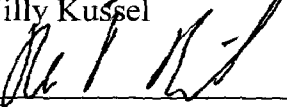
We further covenant and agree that, at the time of the execution and delivery of these presents, we possess full title to the invention and application above-mentioned, and that we have the unencumbered right and authority to make this assignment.

We further covenant and agree to bind our heirs, legal representatives, and assigns promptly to communicate to said assignee or its representatives any facts known to us relating to said invention, to testify in any interference or legal proceedings involving said invention, to execute any additional papers which may be requested to confirm the right of the assignee, its representatives, successors, or assigns to secure patent or similar protection for the said invention in all countries and to vest in the assignee complete title to the said invention and Letters Patent, without further compensation, but at the expense of said assignee, its successors, assigns, and other legal representatives.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and seals on this _____
22. day of July, 2000.



Willy Kussel (SEAL)



Rolf Beils (SEAL)



Witness



Witness

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