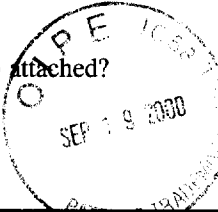


To the Director, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying parties:  
 1) Masayoshi Fukatsu, 2) Teruo Komatsu, 3) Yasuyoshi Hayakawa, 4) Tsuyoshi Waragai, 5) Tomoyuki Araki & 6) Atsushi Ogata

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

9-18-00



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


Foreign Address: 30-2, Shimomaruko 3-chome, Ohta-ku  
Tokyo, Japan

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

Execution Date: August 29, 2000 (1, 2 & 3), August 30, 2000 (5 & 6) & August 31, 2000 (4)

Domestic Address: \_\_\_\_\_

09-27-2000



101473046

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached?  Yes  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 Number: 09/612,289  
 Filing Date: July 7, 2000

B. Title of Invention: SHEET PROCESSING APPARATUS AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

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

Name: Fitzpatrick, Cella, Harper & Scinto  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801

Telephone No.: (212) 218-2100  
 Facsimile No.: (212) 218-2200

6. Number of applications and patents involved:  
One

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

Enclosed  
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number (for deficiency or excess)  
06-1205  
 (Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account):


09/20/2000 HLE333 00000067 09612289

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9. Statement and signature.

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

Lawrence A. Stahl - Reg. No. 30,110  September 19, 2000  
 Name of Person Signing Signature Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: 2

ASSIGNMENT OF PATENT RIGHTS FOR THE UNITED STATES

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, WE, Masayoshi Fukatsu, Teruo Komatsu, Yasuyoshi Hayakawa, Tsuyoshi Waragai, Tomoyuki Araki and Atsushi Ogata citizens of Japan residing respectively at 81-1-307, Shimotogari, Nagaizumicho, Sunto-gun, Shizuoka-ken, Japan; 11-5, Asahigaoka, Mishima-shi, Shizuoka-ken, Japan; 77-3-6, Kamo, Mishima-shi, Shizuoka-ken, Japan; 925-2-92-609, Tokura, Mishima-shi, Shizuoka-ken, Japan; 4-6-904, Shinjukucho, Numazu-shi, Shizuoka-ken, Japan; and 483-206, Shimotogari, Nagaizumicho, Sunto-gun, Shizuoka-ken, Japan hereby sell, assign, transfer and convey unto Canon Kabushiki Kaisha

a corporation of Japan

having a place of business at

30-2, Shimomaruko 3-chome, Ohta-ku, Tokyo, Japan

its successors, assigns and legal representatives (hereinafter called the "Assignee"), the entire right, title and interest, for the United States, in and to certain inventions relating to

SHEET PROCESSING APPARATUS AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

and described in an application for Letters Patent of the United States filed by us on July 7, 2000 and which has been accorded Application No. 09/612,289

and in and to said application, and all divisions, renewals and continuations thereof, and all Letters Patent of the United States which may be granted, thereon, and all reissues and extensions thereof; and we hereby authorize and request the Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks of the United States to issue all Letters Patent upon said inventions to the Assignee or to such nominees as it may designate.

AND we authorize and empower the said Assignee or nominees to invoke and claim for any application for patent or other form of protection for said inventions, the benefit of the right of priority provided by the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, as amended, or by any convention which may henceforth be substituted for it, and to invoke and claim such right of priority without further written or oral authorization from us.

AND we hereby consent that a copy of this assignment shall be deemed a full legal and formal equivalent of any assignment, consent to file or like document which may be required in the United States for any purpose and more particularly in proof of the right of said Assignee or nominees to claim the aforesaid benefit of the right of priority provided by the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, as amended, or by any convention which may henceforth be substituted for it.

AND we hereby covenant that we have the full right to convey the entire right, title and interest herein assigned and that we have not executed and will not execute any agreement in conflict herewith.

AND we hereby covenant and agree that we will communicate to said Assignee or nominees all facts known to us pertaining to said inventions, and testify in all legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuing and reissue applications, make all rightful oaths and declarations and in general perform all lawful acts necessary or proper to aid said Assignee or nominees in obtaining, maintaining and enforcing all lawful patent protection for said inventions in the United States.

By: Masayoshi Fukatsu  
Masayoshi Fukatsu

Date: August 29, 2000

By: Teruo Komatsu  
Teruo Komatsu

Date: August 29, 2000

By: Yasuyoshi Hayakawa  
Yasuyoshi Hayakawa

Date: August 29, 2000

By: Tsuyoshi Waragai  
Tsuyoshi Waragai

Date: August 31, 2000

By: Tomoyuki Araki  
Tomoyuki Araki

Date: August 30, 2000

By: Atsushi Ogata  
Atsushi Ogata

Date: August 30, 2000