

10-12-2000



HEET

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

101484694

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies):
See attached sheet
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)
Name: Townsend Engineering Company
Internal Address: _____

3. Nature of conveyance:
 Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other _____
Execution Date: See attached sheet

Street Address: 2425 Hubbell Avenue
City: Des Moines State: IA Zip: 50317
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 No.(s)
Serial No. 09/615,994

MED 9.25.00

B. Patent No.(s)
Additional numbers attached? Yes No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:
Name: Donald H. Zarley
Internal Address: _____
Street Address: Zarley, McKee, Thomte et al.
801 Grand Avenue, Suite 3200
City: Des Moines State: IA Zip: 50309-2721

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40.00
 Enclosed
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number:
26-0084
(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

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10/11/2000 MTHA11 00000291 09615994
40.00 DP

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.

Ruth E. Fisher
Name of Person Signing

Ruth E. Fisher
Signature

Sept. 19, 2000
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 8

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:
Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments
Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENT
REEL: 011141 FRAME: 0790

INVENTORDATE EXECUTED

HERGOTT, Steven P.

July 7, 2000

MYERS, James L.

July 10, 2000

BASILE, Vincent II

July 10, 2000

OTTOW, Marcelinus Franciscus

July 12, 2000

SIMPSON, Michael S.

July 10, 2000

A S S I G N M E N T

In consideration of One Dollar and other good and valuable considerations, the receipt and sufficiency whereof are hereby acknowledged, the undersigned hereby assigns to TOWNSEND ENGINEERING COMPANY, an Iowa corporation, having an address of 2425 Hubbell Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50317, its successors and assigns the entire right, title and interest in the invention or improvements of the undersigned disclosed in an application for Letters Patent of the United States, Serial No. 09/615,994, filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the 14th day of July, 2000, entitled METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETERMINING THE NUMBER OF LOOPED SAUSAGES FOR DEPOSIT ON A SMOKESTICK, and in said application any and all other applications for United States Letters Patent, which the undersigned may file, either solely or jointly with others, on said invention or improvements, and in any and all Letters Patent, applications, and in any reissue or extension thereof.

The undersigned hereby authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents to issue said Letters Patent to said TOWNSEND ENGINEERING COMPANY.

For said considerations the undersigned hereby agree, upon the request, and at the expense of said assignee, its successors and assigns, to execute any and all divisional continuation and substitute applications for said invention or improvements, and any necessary oath or affidavit relating thereto, and any application for the reissue or extension of any Letters Patent that

may be granted upon said application, and for the said considerations the undersigned further agree upon the request of said assignee, its successors or assigns, in the event of any application or Letters Patent assigned herein becoming involved in interference, to cooperate to the best of the ability of the undersigned with said assignee, its successors or assigns in the matters of preparing and executing the preliminary statement and giving and producing evidence in support thereof, the undersigned hereby agreeing to perform, upon request, any and all affirmative acts to obtain said Letters Patent of the United States and vest all rights therein hereby conveying in the said assignee, its successors and assigns whereby said Letters Patent will be held and enjoyed by the said assignee, its 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 and enjoyed by the undersigned if this assignment and sale had not been made.

And for said considerations the undersigned hereby assign to said assignee, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in said invention or improvements for any and all foreign countries and agrees upon the request of assignee, its successors and assigns to execute any and all documents that undersigned shall be requested to execute in connection with any and all applications for foreign Letters Patent therefor, including the prosecution thereof, and to execute any and all

documents necessary to vest title in said foreign applications and patents in assignee.

The attorneys of record are hereby authorized to insert the serial number and the filing date in the above blank spaces when received from the Patent Office.

Steven P. Hergott
Steven P. Hergott
5113 Wistful Vista Drive
West Des Moines, IA 50265

STATE OF IOWA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF POLK)

On this 7 day of July, 2000, before me, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, appeared Steven P. Hergott, to me personally known to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed said instrument as his free and voluntary act for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

Witness my hand and seal the day and year last above given.

[Signature]
Notary Public

James L. Myers
James L. Myers
7800 Iltis Drive #130
Urbandale, IA 50322

STATE OF IOWA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF POLK)

On this 10 day of July, 2000, before me, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, appeared James L. Myers, to me personally known to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed said instrument as his free and voluntary act for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

Witness my hand and seal the day and year last above given.

[Signature]
Notary Public

Vincent Basile

Vincent Basile, II
233 24th Street
West Des Moines, IA 50265

STATE OF IOWA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF POLK)

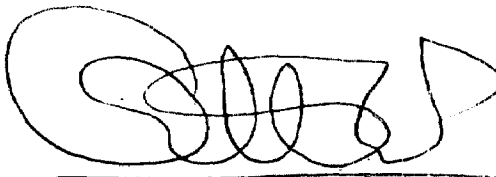
On this 10th day of July, 2000, before me, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, appeared Vincent Basile, II, to me personally known to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed said instrument as his free and voluntary act for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

Witness my hand and seal the day and year last above given.

Jane L. Roberts

Notary Public

Date: 7-12, 2000.



Marcelinus Franciscus Ottow
Anna Blamastr 65
5242 EG Rosmalen

Michael S. Simpson
4935 Wakonda Drive
Norwalk, IA 50211

STATE OF IOWA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF POLK)

On this _____ day of _____, 2000, before me, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, appeared Michael S. Simpson, to me personally known to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed said instrument as his free and voluntary act for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

Witness my hand and seal the day and year last above given.

Notary Public

Date: _____, 2000.

Marcelinus Franciscus Ottow
Anna Blamastr 65
5242 EG Rosmalen

Michael S. Simpson
Michael S. Simpson
4935 Wakonda Drive
Norwalk, IA 50211

STATE OF IOWA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF POLK)

On this _____ day of _____, 2000, before me, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, appeared Michael S. Simpson, to me personally known to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed said instrument as his free and voluntary act for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

Witness my hand and seal the day and year last above given.

Paul L. Kelly
Notary Public