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Toshiki MORI; Naoyuki KATAYAMA; Tsuyoshi
KAJIYASHIKI and Masahiko KITAYAMA

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

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

Name: Kuraray Co., Ltd.

Address: 1621, Sakazu,
Kurashiki-shi, Okayama-ken, Japan

3. Nature of Conveyance:

- Assignment
- Security Agreement
- Other
- Merger
- Change of Name

Execution Date: SEPTEMBER 1, 2000

Additional name(s) and 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)

09/590,136

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER &
NEUSTADT, P.C.
Attorneys at Law
Fourth Floor
1755 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, Virginia 22202

6. Total applications and patents involved: 1

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

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Assignment Of Application

WHEREAS, I (WE) _____

Toshiki MORI _____

INSERT NAMES AND RESIDENCE ADDRESSES OF THE INVENTORS:

1-3-28, Kurashiki-cho, Nakajo-machi, Kitakanbara-gun, Niigata-ken, Japan _____

Naoyuki KATAYAMA _____

1-24-14, Midori-cho, Shibata-shi, Niigata-ken, Japan _____

Tsuyoshi KAJIYASHIKI _____

2-1-105, Kyowa-cho, Nakajo-machi, Kitakanbara-gun, Niigata-ken, Japan _____

Masahiko KITAYAMA _____

1-4-24, Kurashiki-cho, Nakajo-machi, Kitakanbara-gun, Niigata-ken, Japan _____

_____, respectively,

INSERT TITLE OF INVENTION:

have invented certain new and useful improvements in: _____

PROCESS FOR PRODUCING CANTHAXANTHIN _____

INSERT DATE INVENTORS SIGNED DECLARATION:

for which an application for Letters Patent was executed on September 1, 2000

(Application No. 09/590,136, filed June 9, 2000), and

INSERT NAME AND ADDRESS OF COMPANY OR OTHER ASSIGNEE:

WHEREAS, KURARAY CO., LTD.

(hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE") having a place of business at: _____

1621, Sakazu, Kurashiki-shi, Okayama-ken, Japan,

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 therefore in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of FIVE DOLLARS (\$5.00), the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, and for other good and valuable consideration, I (WE), by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto said ASSIGNEE, 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 and renewals thereof.

I (WE) hereby authorize and request the Patent 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 ASSIGNEE as the assignee of my (our) entire right, title and interest in and to the same, for the sole use and behoof of said ASSIGNEE, its (his) 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 me (us) had this Assignment and sale not been made.

Further, I (WE) agree that I (WE) will communicate to said ASSIGNEE or its (his) representatives any facts known to me (us) respecting said invention, 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 Letter Patent to be issued to said ASSIGNEE, make all rightful oaths, and, generally do everything possible to aid said ASSIGNEE, its (his) 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.

The undersigned hereby grant(s) the firm of Oblon, Spivak, McClelland, Maier & Neustadt, P.C. of Fourth Floor, 1755 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202 the power to insert on this assignment any further identification, including the application number and filing date, which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document.

Date: Sep. 1, 2000 Toshiki Mori
(Signature of Inventor) Toshiki MORI

Date: Sep. 1, 2000 Naoyuki Katayama
(Signature of Inventor) Naoyuki KATAYAMA

Date: Sep. 1, 2000 Tsuyoshi Kajiyaishi
(Signature of Inventor) Tsuyoshi KAJIYASHIKI

Date: Sep. 1, 2000 Masahiko Kitayama
(Signature of Inventor) Masahiko KITAYAMA

Date: _____
(Signature of Inventor)

Date: _____
(Signature of Inventor)

Date: _____
(Signature of Inventor)

Date: _____
(Signature of Inventor)

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