

11-20-2000

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Atty. Docket: 35.G2583

To the Director, U.S. Patent and Tra

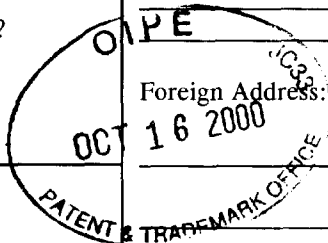
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original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):
KITAHIRO KANEDA, KEN-ICHI KAZUMI,
and TOMOTOSHI KANATSU

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

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



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

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

Domestic Address: _____

Execution Date: September 27, 2000, September 27, 2000
and October 3, 2000, respectively

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: 09/571,411

B. Title of Invention: FORM SEARCH APPARATUS
AND METHOD

Filing Date: May 15, 2000

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):

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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.

Mark J. Itri, Reg. No. 36, 171

Name of Person Signing

Signature

October 13, 2000

Date

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

JOINT
(AFTER APPLICATION FILED)

ASSIGNMENT OF PATENT RIGHTS FOR THE UNITED STATES

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, WE, Kitahiro Kaneda, Ken-ichi Kazumi and Tomotoshi Kanatsu,

citizens of Japan,

residing, respectively, at Kanagawa, Japan; Kanagawa, Japan and Tokyo, 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

FORM SEARCH APPARATUS AND METHOD

and described in an application for Letters Patent of the United States of the United States filed by us on May 15, 2000

and which has been accorded Application No. 09/571,411

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 of 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 filed by it or them, the benefit of the right or 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 or 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, to 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: Kitahiro Kaneda
Kitahiro Kaneda

Date: September 27, 2000

By: Ken-ichi Kazumi
Ken-ichi Kazumi

Date: September 27, 2000

By: Tomotoshi Kanatsu
Tomotoshi Kanatsu

Date: October 3, 2000

By: _____

Date: _____

By: _____

Date: _____