FORM PTO-1619A Expires 06/30/99 OMB 0651-0027

12-22-2000

U.S. Department of Commerce **Patent and Trademark Office PATENT**



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REEL: 011352 FRAME: 0746

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Application Nun	nber(s) or Patent Num	ber(s) Ma	rk if additional numbers attached
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If this document is bein signed by the first nam	g filed together with a <u>new</u> Pater led executing inventor.	nt Application, enter the date the patent app	lication was Month Day Year
Patent Coopera	tion Treaty (PCT)		PCT
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Number of Prop	erties Enter the tot	al number of properties involved.	#/
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Method of Pa	ount	-	
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	Α	Authorization to charge additional fees	: Yes No
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To the bes attached c indicated I	opy is a true copy of the o	lief, the foregoing information is to priginal document. Charges to dep	rue and correct and any posit account are authorized, as
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	Person Signing	Signature	Date

Name of Person Signing

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ASSIGNMENT AND AGREEMENT

For and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar to us in hand paid, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, we, LOWELL E. BLANKENSHIP of Athens, Alabama, and WILLIE L. DAWSON, JR. of Madison, Alabama, have sold, assigned and transferred, and do hereby sell, assign and transfer, unto USA Ramp, Inc., a corporation of the State of Alabama, having its principal office in Huntsville, State of Alabama, United States of America, and its successors, assigns, and legal representatives, the entire right, title and interest for the United States of America in and to certain inventions relating to improvement in STEP PLATE ASSEMBLY FOR PROVIDING A STEP WHILE PRESERVING ACCESS TO THE HITCH BALL OF A HITCH ASSEMBLY, (Case No. USAR0001), described, illustrated and claimed in an application for Letters Patent of the United States of America executed by us on the dates indicated by our signatures below, together with the entire right, title and interest in and to said application, and in and to Letters Patent which may be issued upon said application, and upon any division, extension, continuation or reissue thereof.

We hereby also sell, assign and transfer unto the said USA Ramp, Inc., the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to applications for Letters Patent therefor in all countries foreign to the United States of America, including all rights under any and all international conventions and treaties in respect of said invention and said applications for Letters Patent in foreign countries, and we further authorize the said USA Ramp, Inc. to apply for Letters Patent in foreign countries directly in its own name, and to claim priority of the filing date of the said application for Letters Patent of the United States of America under the provisions of any and all international conventions and treaties.

We hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents of the United States of America to issue Letters Patent upon the aforesaid application, division, extension, continuation or reissue, to the said USA Ramp, Inc., for the sole use and behoof of said USA Ramp, Inc., its successors, assigns and legal representatives, to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted, the same as they would have been held and enjoyed by us had this assignment not been made, and we hereby authorize

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PATENT REEL: 011352 FRAME: 0748 and request the equivalent authorities in foreign countries to issue the patents of their respective countries to the said USA Ramp, Inc.

We agree that, when requested, we will, without charge to said USA Ramp, Inc., but at its expense, sign all papers, take all rightful oaths, and do all acts which may be necessary, desirable or convenient for securing and maintaining patents for said inventions in any and all countries and for vesting title thereto in said USA Ramp, Inc., its successors, assigns and legal representatives or nominees.

We covenant with said USA Ramp, Inc., its successors, assigns and legal representatives, that the interest and property hereby conveyed is free from all prior assignment, grant, mortgage, license or other encumbrance.

(STATE OF (ilabama) (COUNTY OF Madison)

1. Edna E. Dawson __, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the same persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that they signed, sealed and delivered said instrument as their free and voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein set forth.

- 2 -

Given under my hand and notarial seal this 6th day of Sentember

My commission expires: 2-16-2003

4-6-2000 DATE

SEAL.

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PATENT

Willie L. Dawson &	9-6-20	00
WILLIE L. DAWSON, JR.	DATE	
(STATE OF Alsbame), (COUNTY OF Madison)		
(COUNTY OF Madison)		
I, Edna E. Dawson, a Notary Public	in and for the County and Stat	e aforesaid, do
hereby certify that the same persons whose names are su	ubscribed to the foregoing instr	ument, appeared
before me this day in person and acknowledged that they	signed, sealed and delivered s	said instrument as
their free and voluntary act and deed for the uses and pur	poses therein set forth.	432
Given under my hand and notarial seal this 6th da	ay of September	, 19_200
	Shall Daylo	m J

SEAL

Notary Public

My commission expires: 2-16-2003

Rev. 9/30/92

RECORDED: 12/07/2000

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