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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy the eof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):  
**Kazuki Fujiwara**  
**Shuji Okaguchi**  
**Masahiko Hamada**  
**Yu-ichi Komizo**

Additional names(s) of conveying party(ies)  Yes  No

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

Name: Sumitomo Metal Industries, Ltd.

Address: 1-8, Fusocho, Amagasaki  
Hyogo 660-0891  
JAPAN

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Country: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional name(s) & address(es)  Yes  No

3. Nature of conveyance:

Assignment  Merger  
 Security Agreement  Change of Name  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Execution Date: March 22, 2001

4. Application number(s) or registration numbers(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: \_\_\_\_\_

Patent Application No.	Filing date	B. Patent No.(s)
<u>09/380,254</u>	<u>August 25, 1999</u>	

Additional numbers  Yes  No

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

Name: Ms. Marcy M. Hoefling

Registration No. 33,955

Address: ExxonMobil Upstream Research Company  
P. O. Box 2189

City: Houston State/Prov.: Texas  
Country: USA ZIP: 77252-2189

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: **1**

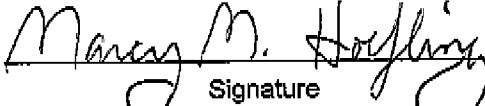
7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41):.....\$ 40.00

Enclosed - Any excess or insufficiency should be credited or debited to deposit account  
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number:  
05-1328

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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.*

Marcy M. Hoefling  April 3, 2001  
Name of Person Signing Signature Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and **3** PATENT

**ASSIGNMENT**

**Inventor or Inventors: Kazuki Fujiwara, Shuji Okaguchi, Masahiko Hamada  
and Yu-ichi Komizo**

In consideration of good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned person(s) named above, (hereinafter referred to as **UNDERSIGNED**) hereby agree(s) as follows:

**UNDERSIGNED** hereby assign(s) to Sumitomo Metal Industries, Ltd., a Japanese corporation, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, herein referred to collectively as **ASSIGNEE**, the entire right, title and interest, for the United States and all foreign countries, in and to **UNDERSIGNED'S** invention, discovery or improvement, described in United States patent application, entitled **"HIGH-TENSILE-STRENGTH STEEL AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME"** and identified as Docket No. 98.002 and as Application Number 09/380,254 filed on August 25, 1999, and in and to said application for patent and any United States patent or patents that may be granted thereon.

**UNDERSIGNED** agree(s) upon the request of **ASSIGNEE** to execute any and all applications for United States patent for said invention, discovery or improvement, and any continuations of such applications or substitutes therefor, and any lawful oaths, affidavits, or other papers relating thereto, and any specific separate assignments of any of the above required for recording in the United States Patent and Trademark Office that **ASSIGNEE** may deem necessary or expedient.

**UNDERSIGNED** agree(s) that in the event of any application based on said assigned invention, discovery or improvement, or patent issued thereon, or any reissue or application for the reissue thereof, becoming involved in interference proceedings, **UNDERSIGNED** will cooperate with **ASSIGNEE** to the best of the ability of **UNDERSIGNED** in the matter of preparing and executing preliminary statements and giving and producing evidence in support thereof.

**UNDERSIGNED** agree(s) upon request of **ASSIGNEE** to execute any and all documents that shall be required of **UNDERSIGNED** to be executed in connection with any and all applications for foreign patents for said invention, discovery or improvement, including the prosecution thereof and the claiming of the International Convention date therefor and for registration in foreign countries of any patents that may be granted for said invention, discovery or improvement.

**UNDERSIGNED** agree(s) to perform upon **ASSIGNEE'S** request any and all affirmative acts to obtain United States and foreign patents upon said invention, discovery or improvement and to vest all rights therein hereby conveyed to **ASSIGNEE**, as fully and as entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by **UNDERSIGNED** if this assignment and sale had not been made.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this assignment has been executed by UNDERSIGNED on the date opposite UNDERSIGNED'S name.

DATE Mar. 22 / 2001

Kazuki Fujiwara  
Kazuki Fujiwara

Yamamoto Narai Mar. 22 / 2001  
Witness Date

DATE Mar. 22 / 2001

Shuji Okaguchi  
Shuji Okaguchi

Yamamoto Narai Mar. 22 / 2001  
Witness Date

DATE Mar. 22 / 2001

Masahiko Hamada  
Masahiko Hamada

Yamamoto Narai Mar. 22 / 2001  
Witness Date

DATE Mar. 22 / 2001

Yu-ichi Komizo  
Yu-ichi Komizo

Yamamoto Narai Mar. 22 / 2001  
Witness Date