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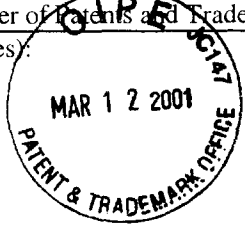
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Our Ref.: 790-1120

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Box Assignment, Washington, D.C. 20231

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

<p>1. Name of conveying party(ies): NOBUHIRO FUJII</p> <p>Additional name/s of conveying party/ies attached? <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>3. Nature of conveyance:  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment      <input type="checkbox"/> Merger  <input type="checkbox"/> Security Assignment      <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Name  <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>Execution Date: February 9, 2001</p>	<p>2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):</p> <p>Name: SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA  Internal Address:  Street Address: 22-22, Nagaike-cho, Abeno-ku</p> <p>City: Osaka  State/Country: Japan  Zip:</p> <p>Additional name/s &amp; address/es attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
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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: \_\_\_\_\_

<p>A. Patent Application No(s).  (1) 29/136,402  (2)  (3)</p>	<p>B. Patent No(s).  (1)  (2)  (3)</p> <p>Additional numbers attached <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
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<p>5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:</p> <p>Name: Richard G. Besha  Internal Address:  Street Address: Nixon &amp; Vanderhye P.C.  1100 North Glebe Road  8<sup>th</sup> Floor  City: Arlington State: VA Zip: 22201</p>	<p>6. Total number of applications &amp; patents involved: 1</p> <p>7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) \$ 40.00  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosed  <input type="checkbox"/> Authorized to be charged to deposit account #14-1140</p> <p>8. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper thereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140.</p>
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DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

9. Statements 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.

Richard G. Besha      Richard Besha      March 12, 2001  
Name of Person Signing      Signature      Date

Reg. No. 22,770      Total number of pages including original cover sheet, attachments, and document: [3]

03/14/2001 SSESHE1 00000061 29136402  
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**ASSIGNMENT FOR PATENT APPLICATION**  
**(U.S. Rights Only)**

WHEREAS, NOBUHIRO FUJII, (hereinafter ASSIGNOR) of 2-10-24, Seiiku, Joto-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka-fu, Japan, has made an invention entitled VACUUM CLEANER for which a so-entitled application for Letters Patent of the United States was filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 31, 2001;

WHEREAS, SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA (hereinafter ASSIGNEE), a corporation of the Country of Japan, having an office and place of business at 22-22, Nagaike-cho, Abeno-ku, Japan is desirous of acquiring an interest therein;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the said ASSIGNOR by these presents hereby sells, assigns, and transfers unto the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns, and legal representatives, ASSIGNOR'S entire right, title and interest in the United States of America as defined in 35 U.S.C. § 100, in and to the invention as described in the aforesaid application and to the said application and to all subsequent applications based thereon including any and all continuations, divisions, reissues, and substitutes of said application, and all resulting patents, and the ASSIGNOR hereby authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents and Trademark to issue said Letters Patent to ASSIGNEE, for its interest as ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns, and legal representatives. It is understood and agreed that

ASSIGNEE'S attorneys Nixon & Vanderhye P.C. have represented only ASSIGNEE and will continue to represent only ASSIGNEE with respect to this invention;

ASSIGNOR hereby agrees to transfer a like interest upon request of said ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns, and legal representatives, and without further remuneration, in and to any improvements, and applications for patents based thereon, growing out of or related to the said invention; and

ASSIGNOR hereby agrees to execute any papers by ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns, and legal representatives, deemed essential to ASSIGNEE'S full protection and title in and to the invention hereby transferred.

AGREED and executed as noted below:

February 9, 2001  
Date

*Nobuhiro Fujii*  
NOBUHIRO FUJII

Witnessed by:

Name: *H. Takahashi* Date: February 16, 2001

Name: *[Signature]* Date: February 16, 2001