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03-21-2001



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U.S. PATENT
29/138238
03/09/01

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies):
Timothy P. Laabs
Michael O. Misner
3/09/01
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)
Name: The Eastern Company
Internal Address: _____
Street Address: 301 West Hintz Road
City: Wheeling State: IL ZIP: 60090
Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes No

3. Nature of conveyance:
 Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other _____
Execution Date: 3-5-01

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: 3-5-01
A. Patent Application No.(s)
(Atty's Docket No. 5-758)
B. Patent No.(s) 29138238
Additional numbers attached? Yes No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:
Name: David A. Burge, Esq.
Internal Address: _____
David A. Burge Co., L.P.A.
Street Address: _____
P.O. Box 221011
City: Cleveland State: OH ZIP: 44122-0992

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: -1-
7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40.00
 Enclosed
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account
8. Deposit account number:
02-4700 (ONLY FOR INADEQUACY OF ENCLOSED FEE)
(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 correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.
David A. Burge
Reg. No. 24,390
Name of Person Signing
[Signature]
Signature
3-9-01
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 4

ASSIGNMENT

IN CONSIDERATION OF ONE DOLLAR and other good and valuable consideration, receipt and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged by the undersigned named inventors of the invention entitled

**KNOB AND ESCUTCHEON PORTIONS
OF A THUMB TURN LATCH**

which is described and claimed in an application executed concurrently herewith, Atty's Docket No. 5-758,

THE UNDERSIGNED NAMED INVENTORS do hereby sell, transfer, set over and assign unto

The Eastern Company, a Connecticut Corporation

which has an office and place of business of its Illinois Lock Company division at

301 West Hintz Road, Wheeling, IL 60090

its heirs, executors, administrators, successors, assigns, nominees, or other legal representatives (hereinafter the "Assignee") the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention of the above-identified application invented by us, and the application for United States patent therefor, and all original and reissued patents granted therefor, and all divisions and continuations thereof, including the subjects matter of any and all claims which may be obtained in every such patent, and the right to apply for and obtain patents in countries foreign to the United States including the right to claim in foreign applications the priority of United States applications, and in and to any Letters Patent which may be granted thereon in foreign countries, and do hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States, and any official of any country or countries foreign to the United States whose duty it is to issue patents on applications as aforesaid, to issue such Letters Patent to the Assignee as assignee and owner of the entire interest, and covenant that I/we have full right to convey the interest herein assigned and that I/we have not executed and will not execute any agreement in conflict herewith, and agree that I will communicate to the Assignee all facts known to me respecting said invention, whenever requested, and testify in any legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, execute and deliver all divisional, continuing and reissue applications, make all rightful oaths and do all lawful acts requisite to assist or enable the Assignee to obtain and enforce full benefits from the rights and interests assigned herein including such acts as may be required for the application and for such divisional, continuing or reissue applications, or the procuring thereof, and that if and when the Assignee desires

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to file a disclaimer relating thereto I/we will, upon request, sign and deliver all lawful papers requisite for the filing of such disclaimer, and I/we further covenant and agree that I/we will, at any time upon request, do everything legally possible to aid the Assignee either in my own name, or in the name of the Assignee, to apply for, obtain and enforce proper patent protection in all countries, including priority rights granted to patents in foreign countries according to all the laws and treaties in force, all without further consideration but at the expense of the Assignee.

THIS ASSIGNMENT shall be binding upon my heirs, executors, administrators, successors, assigns, nominees or other legal representatives.

WHEREFORE THE UNDERSIGNED NAMED INVENTOR does hereby sign and affix his signatures to this document, each in the presence of a duly authorized Notary Public who likewise has signed and affixed his signature hereto in the jurat paragraph attendant the signature of the inventor who affixed his signature in the presence of said Notary Public.

Inventor Signatures

Being Affixed Hereto

In the Presence of a Notary Public

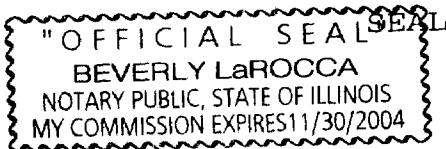
Inventor's Full Name: TIMOTHY P. LAABS
Inventor's Signature: Timothy P. Laabs
Post Office Address: 1446 East Joyce Avenue
Palatine, IL 60067

NOTARIZATION OF THE SIGNATURE OF TIMOTHY P. LAABS:

State of Illinois)
County of COOK) SS

This 5TH day of the month of March, 2001 before me personally came the above-named individual to me known as the individual who executed this document in the space provided above, and who acknowledged to me that he executed this document of his own free will for the purpose therein set forth.

Notary's Signature: Beverly LaRocca



Inventor's Full Name: MICHAEL O. MISNER

Inventor's Signature: Michael O. Misner

Post Office Address: 37338 Fairview Lane
Lake Villa, IL 60046

NOTARIZATION OF THE SIGNATURE OF MICHAEL O. MISNER:

State of Illinois)
County of COOK) SS

This 5TH day of the month of March, 2001 before me personally came the above-named individual to me known as the individual who executed this document in the space provided above, and who acknowledged to me that he executed this document of his own free will for the purpose therein set forth.

Notary's Signature: Beverly La Rocca

