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FORM PTO-1595
1/31/92

06-01-2001



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

To the Honorable Commissionere thereof.

101704288

attached original documents or copy

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

HIROKI KIKUCHI
ASAHIKO NOGAMI

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

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

Internal Address: _____
7-35, Kitashinagawa 6-chome
Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 141, Japan

Street Address: _____

3. Nature of conveyance:

 Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other _____
Execution Date January 24, 2001

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 No.(s) B: Patent No.(s)
U.S. Serial No. 09/661,890 filed September 14, 2000
Attorney Docket No. 09793822-0016

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL
P.O. Box #061080
Wacker Drive Station
Sears Tower
Chicago, IL 60606-1080
Customer ID No. 26263

6. Total number of applications and patents involved 1
7. Total Fee (37 CFR 3.41) \$ 40.00
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8. Deposit Account Number: 19.3140
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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 R. Metzger David R Metzger February 1, 2001
Name of Person Signing Signature Date
Total number of pages 3

Mail documents to be recorded and required cover sheet information to:
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PATENTS ONLY

1/31/92

Patent and Trademark Office

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1. Name of conveying party(ies):

HIROKI KIKUCHI
ASAHIKO NOGAMI

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?

Yes No

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

Name: Sony Precision Technology, Inc.

Internal Address: _____
9-17, Nishigotanda 3-chome
Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo, Japan

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Additional Name(s) & Address(es) attached Yes No

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02-22-2001



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1/31/92

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Patent and Trademark Office

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

<p>1. Name of conveying party(ies):</p> <p>HIROKI KIKUCHI ASAHIKO NOGAMI</p> <p>Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>2. Name and address of receiving party(ies): Name: <u>Sony Corporation</u></p> <p>Internal Address: _____ <u>7-35, Kitashinagawa 6-chome</u> <u>Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 141, Japan</u></p> <p>Street Address: _____</p> <p>City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____</p> <p>Additional Name(s) & Address(es) attached <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>3. Nature of conveyance:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment <input type="checkbox"/> Merger <input type="checkbox"/> Security Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Name <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p>Execution Date <u>January 24, 2001</u></p>	

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02/21/2001 6TOM11 00000232 193140 09661890
01 FC:581 40.00 CH

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, I, as below named inventors, residing at the addresses stated next to our name, am a sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of certain new and useful improvements in

**FOCAL POINT POSITION CONTROL MECHANISM AND METHOD
AND APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR INSPECTING SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER**

for which application for Letters Patent of the United States of America was executed by me on the date indicated next to my name and address;

AND WHEREAS, SONY CORPORATION, a Japanese corporation, with offices at 7-35, Kitashinaqawa 6-chome, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo, Japan, and Sony Precision Technology Inc., with office at 9-17, Nishigotanda 3-chome, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo, Japan (hereinafter referenced as ASSIGNEES) are desirous of acquiring all interest in, to and under said invention, said application disclosing the invention and in, to and under any Letters Patent or similar legal protection which may be granted therefor in the United States and in any and all foreign countries;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, I, as a sole or joint inventor as indicated below, by these presents do hereby assign, sell and transfer unto the said ASSIGNEES, its successors, assigns, and legal representatives, the entire right, title and interest in the said invention, said application, including any divisions and continuations thereof, and in and to any and all Letters Patent of the United States, and countries foreign thereto, which may be granted for said invention, and in and to any and all priority rights and/or convention rights under the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, Inter-American Convention Relating to Patents, Designs and Industrial Models, and any other international agreements to which the United States of America adheres, and to any other benefits accruing or to accrue to me with respect to the filing of applications for patents or securing of patents in the United States and countries foreign thereto, and I hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents to issue the said United States Letters Patent to said ASSIGNEES, as the assignees of the whole right, title and interest thereto;

And I further agree to execute all necessary or desirable and lawful future documents, including assignments in favor of ASSIGNEES or its design, as ASSIGNEES or its successors, assigns and legal representatives may from time-to-time present to me and without further remuneration, in order to perfect title in said invention, modifications, and improvements in said invention, applications and Letters Patent of the United States and countries foreign thereto;

And I further agree to properly execute and deliver and without further remuneration, such necessary or desirable and lawful papers for application for foreign patents, for filing subdivisions of said application for patent, and or, for obtaining any reissue or reissues of any Letters patent which may be granted for my aforesaid invention, as the ASSIGNEES thereof shall hereafter require and prepare at its own expense;

And I further agree that ASSIGNEES will, upon its request, be provided promptly with all pertinent facts and documents relating to said application, said invention and said Letters Patent and legal equivalents in foreign countries as may be known and accessible to me and will testify as to the same in any interference or litigation related thereto;

And I hereby covenant that no assignment, sale, agreement or encumbrance has been or will be made or entered into which would conflict with this assignment and sale;

And I hereby authorize and request my Attorney(s) of record in this application to insert the serial number and filing date of this application in the spaces that follow: Serial Number: 09/661,890 ; Filing Date: September 14, 2000 .

This assignment executed on the dates indicated below.

Hiroki KIKUCHI
Name of first or sole Inventor

Hiroki Kikuchi
Signature of first or sole Inventor

Kanagawa, Japan
Residence of first or sole Inventor

Jan 24, 2001
Execution Date of this Assignment

Asahiko NOGAMI
Name of second Inventor

Asahiko Nogami
Signature of Second Inventor

Tokyo, Japan
Residence of second Inventor

Jan 24, 2001
Execution Date of this Assignment

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, I, as below named inventors, residing at the addresses stated next to our name, am a sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of certain new and useful improvements in

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And I further agree to execute all necessary or desirable and lawful future documents, including assignments in favor of ASSIGNEES or its design, as ASSIGNEES or its successors, assigns and legal representatives may from time-to-time present to me and without further remuneration, in order to perfect title in said invention, modifications, and improvements in said invention, applications and Letters Patent of the United States and countries foreign thereto;

And I further agree to properly execute and deliver and without further remuneration, such necessary or desirable and lawful papers for application for foreign patents, for filing subdivisions of said application for patent, and or, for obtaining any reissue or reissues of any Letters patent which may be granted for my aforesaid invention, as the ASSIGNEES thereof shall hereafter require and prepare at its own expense;

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Name of first or sole Inventor

[Handwritten Signature]
Signature of first or sole Inventor

Kanagawa, Japan
Residence of first or sole Inventor

Jan 24, 2001
Execution Date of this Assignment

Asahiko NOGAMI
Name of second Inventor

[Handwritten Signature]
Signature of Second Inventor

Tokyo, Japan
Residence of second Inventor

Jan 24, 2001
Execution Date of this Assignment

PATENT