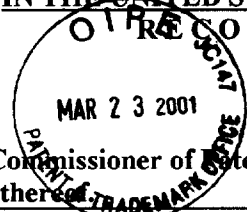


04-04-2001

IN THE UNITED STATES



FIGE



101670246

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

MUO 3-23-01

1. Name of conveying party(ies): Patrick BRIOT Alain FORESTIERE Serge GAUTIER Eric BENAZZI Leon LEW No additional names attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Name and address of receiving party(ies): Institut Francais du Petrole 1 & 4 avenue de Bois-Preau 92852 RUEIL MALMAISON CEDEX, FRANCE And Industrias Venoco C.A. Apartado 62235 CARACAS 1060-A, VENEZUELA No additional names(s) or address(es) attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Nature of Conveyance: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> assignment <input type="checkbox"/> merger <input type="checkbox"/> security agreement <input type="checkbox"/> change of name <input type="checkbox"/> other	
EXECUTION DATE: February 23, 2001	
4. Application number(s) or patent number(s): THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT BEING FILED WITH A NEW APPLICATION.	
A. Patent Application Number(s) 09/671,294	B. Patent Number(s)
5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed: Name: MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO & BRANIGAN, P.C. Address: Arlington Court Plaza I Suite 1400 2200 Clarendon BLVD. Arlington, VA 22201	6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1 7. Total fee (37CFR 3.41) \$40.00 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check enclosed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any deficiencies in the payment of fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to 8. DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 13-3402
DO NOT USE THIS SPACE	

9. Statement and Signature.

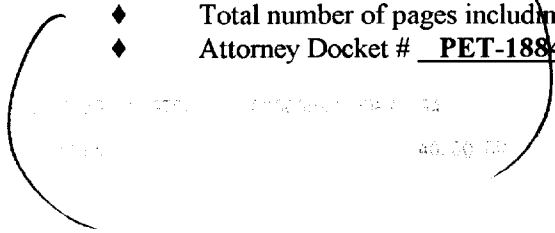
To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

Pamela D. Richardson
Legal Assistant for Applicant(s)

Pamela D. Richardson
Signature

March 23, 2001
Date

- ◆ Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and documents: 2
- ◆ Attorney Docket # PET-1884



ASSIGNMENT

PET-1884

WHEREAS the below named inventor (if only one inventor is named below) or inventors (if plural inventors are named below) hereinafter referred to as the ASSIGNOR invented a certain improvement relating to

SYNTHETIC OIL WITH A HIGH VISCOSITY NUMBER AND A LOW POUR POINT

- for which an application for Letters Patent to be filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office was executed on even date
- for which U.S. Application Serial No. 09/671,294 for Letters Patent was filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 27, 2000
- for which an International Application was filed on _____ as _____ designating the United States

AND WHEREAS **INSTITUT FRANCAIS DU PETROLE** **INDUSTRIAS VENOCO C.A.**
 1 & 4 avenue de Bois-Préau AND Apartado 62235
 92852 RUEIL MALMAISON CEDEX, FRANCE CARACAS 1060-A, VENEZUELA

hereinafter referred to as the ASSIGNEE, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title, and interest in and to said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, including any and all renewals, reissues, reexaminations and extensions thereof

NOW, WITNESSETH that for good and valuable consideration, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, ASSIGNOR hereby assigns, sells, and transfers to ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives, the entire and exclusive right, title and interest in and to said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor, including any and all renewals, reissues, reexaminations and extensions thereof, and in and to any and all priority and/or convention rights or benefits accruing or to accrue with respect to the filing or securing of patents in the United States and/or any countries foreign thereto, SAID ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives to have, hold, exercise, and enjoy said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor, including any and all renewals, reissues, reexaminations and extensions thereof, with all the rights, powers, privileges and advantages in anywise arising from or appertaining thereto, for and during the term or terms of any and all such Letters Patent when granted, including any and all renewals, reissues, reexaminations and extensions thereof, for the use and benefit of ASSIGNEE and its assigns and legal representatives, in as ample and beneficial a manner to all intents and purposes as the ASSIGNOR might or could have held and enjoyed the same, if the assignment had not been made.

AND ASSIGNOR hereby agrees to execute all papers that may be necessary to file applications in the United States and foreign countries for said invention and to assign the same to said ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives and to execute any other papers that may be needed in connection with filing said applications and securing Letters Patents thereon

AND ASSIGNOR authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue a Letters Patent on said application, and on any and all divisions and continuations thereof, to ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives, in accordance herewith

The undersigned hereby grant(s) the law firm of Millen, White, Zelano & Branigan, P.C. the power to insert on this assignment any further identification which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF this assignment is executed by ASSIGNOR

201	FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
	Patrick BRIOT	<i>Patrick Briot</i>	23 rd February 2001
202	FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
	Alain FORESTIERE	<i>Alain Forestiere</i>	23 rd February 2001
203	FULL NAME OF THIRD JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
	Serge GAUTIER	<i>Serge Gautier</i>	23 rd February 2001
204	FULL NAME OF FOURTH JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
	Eric BÉNAZZI	<i>Eric Benazzi</i>	23 rd February 2001
205	FULL NAME OF FIFTH JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
	Leon LEW	<i>Leon Lew</i>	23 rd February 2001
206	FULL NAME OF SIXTH JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
207	FULL NAME OF SEVENTH JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
208	FULL NAME OF EIGHTH JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
209	FULL NAME OF NINTH JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
210	FULL NAME OF TENTH JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
211	FULL NAME OF ELEVENTH JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
212	FULL NAME OF TWELFTH JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE

PATENT