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

MLO 3-26-01

1. Name of conveying party(ies):  
 Dr. Helmut Laig-Hörstebroek  
 Dr. Eberhard Meißner  
 Detlef Brunn  
 Karl-Heinz Leiblein  
 Dieter Ubermeier

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

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):  
 VB Autobatterie GmbH, a corporation of Germany  
 Am Leineufer 51,  
 30419 Hannover, Germany

Additional name(s) and address(es) attached?  Yes  No

3. Nature of conveyance:

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

Execution Date: February 16, 2001

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: February 22, 2001

A. Patent Application No.(s)      B. Patent No.(s)  
 09/791,108

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

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

IP Department  
 Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis  
 1600 Market Street, 36th Floor  
 Philadelphia, PA 19103

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 No. 13-3405  
 (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.*

T. Daniel Christenbury           21 Mar 2001

Name of Person Signing      Signature      Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document: 3

**ASSIGNMENT**

WHEREAS, we, Dr. Helmut Laig-Hörstebroek, Dr. Eberhard Meißner, Detlef Brunn, Karl-Heinz Leiblein and Dieter Übermeier, citizens of Germany, residing at Prieststraße 13, D-60320 Frankfurt, Germany, Achterberger Straße 62, D-31515 Wunstorf, Germany, Elfenweg 16, D-30823 Garbsen, Germany, Veilchenweg 16, D-31515 Wunstorf, Germany and Hildesheimer Straße 95, D-30173 Hannover, Germany, respectively, (hereinafter referred to as "the undersigned"), having made an invention entitled METHOD FOR DETERMINING THE STATE OF CHARGE OF LEAD-ACID RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES for which on the date set forth below, unless otherwise indicated here, \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned executed an application for United States Letters Patent,

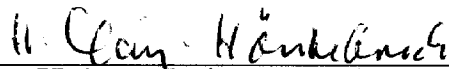
WHEREAS, VB Autobatterie GmbH, a corporation of Germany, with offices at Am Leineufer 51, 30419 Hannover, Germany, (hereinafter referred to as "assignee"), is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in said invention, said application and all letters patent issuing for said invention,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and of other good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned, intending to be legally bound, does hereby sell, assign and transfer to the assignee the entire right, title and interest, for the United States of America, its territories and possessions, and for all foreign countries, in said invention, including said patent application, all divisions and continuations thereof, all rights to claim priority based thereon, all rights to file foreign applications on said invention, and all letters patent and reissues thereof, issuing for said invention in the United States of America and in any and all foreign countries.


It is agreed that the undersigned shall be legally bound, upon request of the assignee, or its successors or assigns or a legal representative thereof, to supply all information and evidence of which the undersigned has knowledge or possession, relating to the making and practice of said invention, to testify in any legal proceeding relating thereto, to execute all instruments proper to patent the invention in the United States of America and foreign countries in the name of the assignee, and to execute all instruments proper to carry out the intent of this instrument. If the undersigned includes more than one individual, these obligations shall apply to all of the undersigned both individually and collectively.

The rights and property herein conveyed by the undersigned are free and clear of any encumbrance.

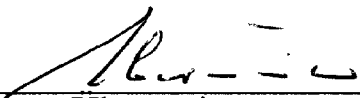
EXECUTED on 16.02., 2001, at Hannover.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Helmut Laig-Hörstebroek

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Eberhard Meißner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Detlef Brunn

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Karl-Heinz Leiblein

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dieter Übermeier

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness Susanne Laske