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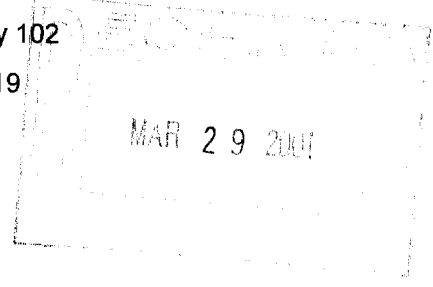


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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):
**BRIAN KENKEL, KEITH A. HOELTING and
JAMES V. REEVES**

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):
VERMEER MANUFACTURING COMPANY
2411 Highway 102
Pella, IA 50219



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

3. Nature of conveyance:
 Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other _____

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

Execution Date: **December 18, 2000, respectively**

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)

09/773,808

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

HENDERSON & STURM LLP

206 Sixth Avenue - Suite 1213

Des Moines, IA 50309-4076

6. Total number of applications and patents involved:

1

7. Total Fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ **40**

Enclosed

Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit Account Number: **08-1650**

(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

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.

Michael O. Sturm

Name of Person Signing

Michael O. Sturm
Signature

March 21, 2001
Date

Total number of pages comprising cover sheet **3**

04/12/2001 TDI:AZI 00000057 09773808

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ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, we, Brian Kenkel, of 344 Center Point Rd., Lake Ponderosa, Iowa 50171; Keith A. Hoelting, of 2837 Hwy. S26, Allerton, Iowa 50008; and James V. Reeves of 308 Carss Street, Leighton, Iowa 50143, have invented a certain new and useful invention entitled **PLOW FOR INSTALLING UTILITY LINES**; and

WHEREAS, Vermeer Manufacturing Company, a corporation of the State of Iowa, having an address of 2411 Highway 102, Pella, Iowa 50219, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and any and all Letters Patent of the United States and Letters Patent in any and all foreign countries which may be obtained therefor;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, we do hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over unto the said Vermeer Manufacturing Company, its legal representatives, successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention, as described in the above mentioned application about to be filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on February 1, 2001 and given Serial No. 09/773,808, and entitled **PLOW FOR INSTALLING UTILITY LINES**, and in and to all patents of the United States and in any and all foreign countries which may be issued for said invention, and in and to all patent applications, continuations, continuations-in-part, divisionals, reexaminations and reissues of said invention as described in the above-mentioned application in the United States and in any and all foreign countries, as fully and completely as the same would have been held by us had this Assignment and sale not been made, together with all claims for damages by

reason of past infringement with the right to sue for and collect the same and obtain all other possible remedies for its own use and enjoyment and for the use and enjoyment of its successors, assigns or other legal representatives. The said entire right, title and interest shall vest irrevocably in said Vermeer Manufacturing Company. We further agree upon request, without additional compensation but at no expense to ourselves, to execute or assent to foreign applications, and to execute all other legal documents as may be necessary or desirable to vest the enjoyment of the said entire right, title and interest hereby transferred in Vermeer Manufacturing Company, its legal representatives, successors and assigns, or as the said company may direct.

The Attorney of Record is hereby authorized to insert the Serial Number and filing date in the above blank spaces when received from the Patent and Trademark Office.

We hereby request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any Letters Patent of the United States which may be issued for said invention to the said Vermeer Manufacturing Company, its legal representatives, successors and assigns, as the sole owner of the entire right, title and interest in and to said patents and inventions covered thereby.

12 / 18 / 00
Date

12/18/00
Date

12-18-00
Date

Brian Kenkel
Brian Kenkel

Keith A. Hoelting
Keith A. Hoelting

James V. Reeves
James V. Reeves