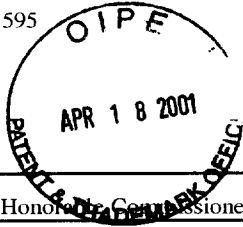


04-27-2001

FORM PTO-1595  
(Rev. 6/93)



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PATENTS ONLY

J.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

Attorney's Docket No. 016499-803

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Dean L. Doty  
Yan Xu  
Stephen Chesters  
Ben R. Hall  
Roger Q. Petton  
Thomas P. Ross  
Charles A. White  
Reginald Wynne

4.18.01

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

Assignment  Merger  
 Security Agreement  Change of Name

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Execution Date: April 3, 2001, April 4, 2001,  
April 5, 2001, April 9, 2001, April 10, 2001 and  
April 11, 2001

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

Name: Air Liquide America Corporation  
Address: 2700 Post Oak Boulevard  
Suite 1800  
Houston, Texas 77056 U.S.A.

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)

09/764,424

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

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

Name: E. Joseph Gess, Esq.  
Address: BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.  
P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: One (1)

7. Total fee (37 CFR § 3.41): \$ 40.00

Enclosed

Authorized to be charged to deposit account, if necessary

8. Deposit account number:

02-4800

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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.*

Roger H. Lee, Reg. No. 46,317  
Name of Person Signing

Roger H. Lee  
Signature

April 18, 2001  
Date

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

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:

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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Box Assignments  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENT  
REEL: 011716 FRAME: 0170

(03/01)

**Assignment of Invention**

WHEREAS, We, Dean L. DOTY of 2800 Royal Oaks Dr., Plano, Texas 75074; Yan XU of 9319 Restover Lane, Houston, Texas 77064; Stephen CHESTERS of 1502 Constellation Dr., Allen, Texas 75013; Ben R. HALL of 2681 Franklin Dr. Apt. 3078, Mesquite, Texas 75150; Roger Q. PETTON of 9000 Vantage Pt., Apt. 1014, Dallas, Texas 75243; Thomas P. ROSS of 718 Summer Dr., Mesquite, Texas 75149; Charles A. WHITE of 232 Pebblebrook Ln., Red Oak, Texas 75154; and Reginald WYNNE of 12000 S. Longwood Drive, Blue Island, Illinois 60406 respectively, have invented certain new and useful improvements in: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MIXING GASES, for which a non-provisional patent application was filed on **January 19, 2001** in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, having **Application No. 09/764,424**;

WHEREAS, AIR LIQUIDE AMERICA CORPORATION, (hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE") having a place of business at: 2700 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1800, Houston, Texas 77056, U.S.A. desires to acquire from Dean L. DOTY, Yan XU, Stephen CHESTERS, Ben R. HALL, Roger Q. PETTON, Thomas P. ROSS, Charles A. WHITE, and Reginald WYNNE, the entire right, title and interest they have in and to said invention and in and to any Letters Patent that may be granted thereof in the United States and its territorial possessions;

NOW, THEREFORE, for valuable consideration, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, We, by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto said ASSIGNEE, all of our rights to the said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions and our entire right, title and interest in and to any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor in the United States and its territorial possessions and in and to any and all divisions, reissues, continuations, substitutions and renewals thereof.

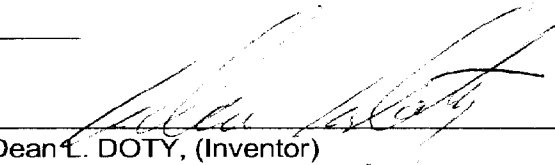
We hereby authorize and request the Patent Office Officials in the United States and its territorial possessions to issue any and all of said Letters Patent, when granted, to said ASSIGNEE as the assignee of our entire right, title and interest in and to the same, for the use and behalf of said ASSIGNEE, its successors and assigns, to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by us had this Assignment and sale not been made.

Further, We agree that We will communicate to said ASSIGNEE or its representatives any facts known to us respecting said invention, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuation, substitute, renewal and reissue applications, execute all necessary assignment papers to cause any and all of said Letters Patent to be issued to said ASSIGNEE, make all rightful oaths, and, generally do everything possible to aid said ASSIGNEE, its successors and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper protection for said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions.

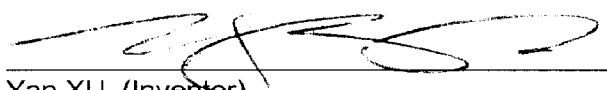
The undersigned hereby grants authorized representatives of the above identified ASSIGNEE the power to insert on this assignment any further identification which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document.

EXECUTED AT: U.S.A.

Date: 4/11/01

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean L. DOTY, (Inventor)

Date: 4/3/01

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Yan XU, (Inventor)

Date: 4/3/01

Stephen Chesters  
Stephen CHESTERS, (Inventor)

Date: 4/10/01

Ben R. Hall  
Ben R. HALL, (Inventor)

Date: 4/13/01

Roger Q. Petton  
Roger Q. PETTON, (Inventor)

Date: 4/4/01

Thomas P. Ross  
Thomas P. ROSS, (Inventor)

Date: 4/9/01

Charles A. White  
Charles A. WHITE, (Inventor)

Date: 4/5/01

Reginald Wynne  
Reginald WYNNE, (Inventor)