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Masato SHIMAKAWA, Nobuhide YAMAZAKI, Erika KOBAYASHI, Makoto
AKABANE, Kenichiro KOBAYASHI, Keiichi YAMADA, Tomoaki NITTAAdditional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?
___ Yes ___ X No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: SONY CORPORATION
7-35 Kitashinagawa 6-chome
Shinagawa-Ku, Tokyo 141-0001, JapanAdditional name(s) & address(es) attached? ___ Yes ___ X No

3. Nature of conveyance:

X Assignment
___ Security Agreement
___ Merger
___ Change of Name
___ OtherExecution Date(s): March 10, March 13, March 13, March 13,
March 13, March 14 and March 13, 2001

APR 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:A. Patent Application No.(s) 09/749,345 filed December 27, 2000Additional numbers attached? ___ Yes ___ X No5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence
concerning document should be mailed:

Name: WILLIAM S. FROMMER

Internal Address: FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

Street Address: 745 FIFTH AVENUE

City: NEW YORK State: N.Y. Zip: 101516. Total number of applications and
patents involved

1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) \$ 40.00
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April 13, 2001

Date

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PK2-1000C, Washington, D.C. 20231, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0651-0011),
Washington, D.C. 20503.

WHEREAS, I, as below named inventors, residing at the addresses stated next to our names, 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

SPEECH SYNTHESIZING APPARATUS, SPEECH SYNTHESIZING METHOD, AND RECORDING MEDIUM

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 Kitashinagawa 6-Chome, Shinagawa-Ku, Tokyo 141, Japan (hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNEE) is 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 ASSIGNEE, 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 ASSIGNEE, as the assignee 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 ASSIGNEE or its designee, as ASSIGNEE 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 ASSIGNEE thereof shall hereafter require and prepare at its own expense;

And I further agree that ASSIGNEE 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: 09/749,345, Filing Date: December 27, 2000.

This assignment executed on the dates indicated below.

Masato SHIMAKAWA

Name of first or sole inventor	Execution date of U.S. Patent Application
Kanagawa, Japan	
Residence of first or sole inventor	
<i>Masato Shimakawa</i>	<i>March 10, 2001</i>
Signature of first or sole inventor	Date of this assignment

Nobuhide YAMAZAKI

Name of second inventor	Execution date of U.S. Patent Application
Kanagawa, Japan	
Residence of second inventor	
<i>Nobuhide Yamazaki</i>	<i>March 13, 2001</i>
Signature of second inventor	Date of this assignment

Erika KOBAYASHI

Name of third inventor	Execution date of U.S. Patent Application
Tokyo, Japan	
Residence of third inventor	
<i>Erika Kobayashi</i>	<i>March 13, 2001</i>
Signature of third inventor	Date of this assignment

ADDITIONAL INVENTORS

Makoto AKABANE

Name of fourth inventor

Execution date of U.S. Patent Application

Tokyo, Japan

Residence of fourth inventor

*Makoto Akabane**March 13, 2001*

Signature of fourth inventor

Date of this assignment

Kenichiro KOBAYASHI

Name of fifth inventor

Execution date of U.S. Patent Application

Kanagawa, Japan

Residence of fifth inventor

*Kenichiro Kobayashi**March 13 2001*

Signature of fifth inventor

Date of this assignment

Keiichi YAMADA

Name of sixth inventor

Execution date of U.S. Patent Application

Kanagawa, Japan

Residence of sixth inventor

*Keiichi Yamada**March 14, 2001*

Signature of sixth inventor

Date of this assignment

Tomoaki NITTA

Name of seventh inventor

Execution date of U.S. Patent Application

Tokyo, Japan

Residence of seventh inventor

*Tomoaki Nitta**March 13 2001*

Signature of seventh inventor

Date of this assignment