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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof 1. Name of conveying party(ies): 2. Name and address of receiving party(ies) Josiane DURRIEU, Christian ZURDO, Alain RABION, Name: ELF EXPLORATION PRODUCTION Laurent FRAISSE, Michel GUILLERME Address: Tour Elf, 2 Place de la Coupole. La Défense 6, 92400 Courbevoie, France Additional name(s) of conveying parties attached? □ Yes ⋈ No 3. Nature of conveyance: 10 ■ Assignment ☐ Merger ☐ Security Agreement ☐ Change of Name Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? □ Yes

No ☐ Other: Execution date: all on April 13, 2001. 4. Application numbers or patent numbers: A. Patent Applications: 09/744,284 B. Patent No.(s) Additional Numbers attached? □ Yes

No 5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence 6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1 concerning document should be mailed: Name: Huiya Wu 7. Total fee (37 C.F.R. 3.41) \$ 40.00 Internal Address: KENYON & KENYON □ Enclosed ■ Authorized to be charged to deposit account Street Address: One Broadway City: New York State: New York ZIP: 10004 8. Deposit account number: 11-0600 (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. Huiya Wu, (Reg. No. 44,411) Name of Person Signing Total Number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document: 5 OMB No. 0651-0011 (exp. 4/94) Do not detach this portion Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents **Box Assignments** Washington DC 20231 Public burden reporting for this sample cover sheet is estimated to average about 30 minutes per document to be recorded, including time for reviewing the document and gathering the data needed and completing and reviewing the sample cover sheet. Send comments regarding this burden estimate to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Office of information Systems, PK2-1000C, Washington D.C. 20231, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0605-0011), Washington, D.C. 20503

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PATENT REEL: 011795 FRAME: 0516

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, we,

Josiane Durrieu 2, boulevard Barbanegre 64000 PAU, France Citizenship: France

Christian Zurdo 8, avenue San Carlos 64000 PAU, France Citizenship: France

Alain Rabion 15, place de la Liberation 64000 PAU, France Citizenship: France

Laurent Fraisse Chemin Serrot 64110 Saint Faust, France Citizenship: France

Michel Guillerme 25, rue Ouzoum 64121 Serrescastet, France Citizenship: France

have made new and useful improvements in **Process For Using Biodegradable Drilling Muds**, for which an application for Letters Patent was filed as United States Application Serial No. 09/744,284, which is a national phase application of PCT International Number PCT/FR99/01773, filed July 20, 1999, and

WHEREAS ELF EXPLORATION PRODUCTION, having a place of business at Tour Elf, 2 Place de la Coupole, La Défense 6, 92400 Courbevoie, France, and who, together with its successors and assigns, is hereinafter called "Assignee," is desirous of acquiring the title, rights, benefits, and privileges hereinafter recited,

NOW, THEREFORE, for valuable consideration furnished by Assignee to us, receipt and sufficiency of which we hereby acknowledge, we hereby, without reservations:

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PATENT REEL: 011795 FRAME: 0517

- 1. Assign, transfer, and convey to Assignee the entire right, title, and interest in and to said inventions and discoveries, said application for Letters Patent of the United States of America, any and all other applications for Letters Patent on said inventions and discoveries, including all divisional, renewal, substitute, continuation, and Convention applications based in whole or in part upon said inventions or discoveries, or upon said applications, and any and all Letters Patent, reissues, and extensions of Letters Patent granted for said inventions and discoveries or upon said applications, and every priority right that is or may be predicated upon or arise from said inventions, said discoveries, said applications, and said Letters Patent.
- 2. Authorize Assignee to file patent applications in any or all countries for any or all of said inventions and discoveries in our names or in the name of Assignee or otherwise as Assignee may deem advisable, under an International Convention or otherwise.
- 3. Authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States of America to issue or transfer all said Letters Patent to Assignee, as assignee of the entire right, title, and interest therein or otherwise as Assignee may direct.
- 4. Warrant that we have not conveyed to others any right, title, or interest in said inventions, discoveries, applications, or patents or any license to use the same or to make, use, or sell anything embodying or utilizing any of said inventions or discoveries; that we have good right to assign the same to Assignee without encumbrance; and that we are aware of no claim to the contrary.
- 5. Bind our heirs, legal representatives, and assigns, as well as ourselves, to do, upon Assignee's request and at Assignee's expense, but without additional consideration to us or them, all acts reasonably serving to assure that the said inventions and discoveries, the said patent applications, and said Letters Patent shall be held and enjoyed by Assignee as fully and entirely as the same could have been held and enjoyed by us, our heirs, legal representatives, and assigns if this assignment had not been made; and particularly to execute and deliver to Assignee all lawful application documents including petitions, specifications, and oaths, and all assignments, disclaimers, and lawful affidavits in form and substance as may be requested by Assignee; to communicate to Assignee all facts known to us relating to said inventions and discoveries or the history thereof; to furnish Assignee with any and all documents, photographs, models, samples, and other physical exhibits in our control or in the control of our heirs, legal representatives, or assigns which may be useful for establishing the facts of our conceptions, disclosures, and reduction to practice of said inventions and discoveries; and to testify to the same in any interference, arbitration, or litigation.

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Josiane Durrieu

Christian Zurdo

Alain Rabion

Laurent Fraisse

Michel Guillerme

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RECORDED: 05/10/2001