

FORM PTO-1619A

Expires 06/30/99

OMB 0651-0027

07-16-2001



101777305

U.S. Department of Commerce

Patent and Trademark Office

PATENT

J1046 U.S. PTO

09/896329

06/29/01

TO: The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original document(s) or copy(ies).

Submission Type

- New
- Resubmission (Non-Recordation)
 - Document ID#
- Correction of PTO Error
 - Reel # Frame #
- Corrective Document
 - Reel # Frame #

06/29/01

Conveyance Type

- Assignment
- License
- Merger
- Security Agreement
- Change of Name
- Other

U.S. Government
(For Use ONLY by U.S. Government Agencies)

- Departmental File
- Secret File

Conveying Party(ies)

Mark if additional names of conveying parties attached

Name (line 1)

Execution Date
Month Day Year

Name (line 2)

Second Party

Execution Date
Month Day Year

Name (line 1)

Name (line 2)

Receiving Party

Mark if additional names of receiving parties attached

Name (line 1)

If document to be recorded is an assignment and the receiving party is not domiciled in the U.S., an appointment of a domestic representative is attached. (Designation must be a separate document from Assignment.)

Name (line 2)

Address (line 1)

Address (line 2)

Address (line 3)

City

State/Country

Zip Code

Domestic Representative Name and Address

Enter for first Receiving Party Only.

Name

Address (line 1)

Address (line 2)

Address (line 3)

Address (line 4)

07/13/2001 BBYRNE 00000128 09896329

01 FC:561

40.00 DP

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Public burden reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average approximately 30 minutes per Cover Sheet to be recorded, including time for reviewing the document and gathering that data needed to complete the Cover Sheet. Send comments regarding this burden estimate to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Chief Information Officer, Washington, D.C. 20231 and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0651-0027), Washington, D.C. 20503. See OMB Information Collection Budget Package 0651-0027, Patent and Trademark Assignment Practice. DO NOT SEND REQUESTS TO RECORD ASSIGNMENT DOCUMENTS TO THIS ADDRESS.

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet(s) information to:
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Box Assignments, Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENT

REEL: 011962 FRAME: 0785

Correspondent Name and Address

Area Code and Telephone Number

(616) 975-5500

Name

Catherine S. Collins

Address (line 1)

Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn & Burkhart, LLP

Address (line 2)

2851 Charlevoix Dr., S.E., Ste. 207

Address (line 3)

P.O. Box 888695

Address (line 4)

Grand Rapids, MI 49588-8695

Pages

Enter the total number of pages of the attached conveyance document including any attachments.

1

Application Number(s) or Patent Number(s)

Mark if additional numbers attached

Enter either the Patent Application Number or the Patent Number (DO NOT ENTER BOTH numbers for the same property).

Patent Application Number(s)

Patent Number(s)

09/896 329		

If this document is being filed together with a new Patent Application, enter the date the patent application was signed by the first named executing inventor.

Month Day Year

06/21/01

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

Enter PCT application number only if a U.S. Application Number has not been assigned.

PCT

PCT

PCT

PCT

PCT

PCT

Number of Properties

Enter the total number of properties involved.

1

Fee Amount

Fee Amount for Properties Listed (37 CFR 3.41):

\$ 40.00

Method of Payment:

Enclosed

Deposit Account

Deposit Account

(Enter for payment by deposit account or if additional fees can be charged to the account.)

Deposit Account Number:

22-0190

Authorization to charge additional fees:

Yes

No

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. Charges to deposit account are authorized, as indicated herein.

Catherine S. Collins

Name of Person Signing

Signature

June 29, 2001

Date

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, Scott T. Franson, 50 Mead Street, Hastings, Michigan 49058, (hereinafter referred to as Assignor), has invented certain new and useful improvements in VACUUM DRY SPRINKLER SYSTEM CONTAINING A SPRINKLER HEAD WITH EXPULSION ASSEMBLY for which an application for United States Patent was executed on even date herewith.

WHEREAS, The Viking Corporation a corporation of the State of Michigan having a place of business at 210 North Industrial Park, Hastings, Michigan 49058 (hereinafter referred to as Assignee), is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to any Letters Patent that may be granted therefor in the United States and in any and all foreign countries.

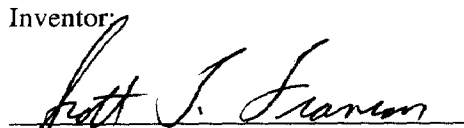
NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of one dollar (\$1.00), the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and for other good and valuable consideration, Assignor hereby sells assigns and transfers unto said Assignee the full and exclusive right, title and interest to the said invention in the United States and in all foreign countries and the entire right, title and interest in and to any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor in the United States and in any and all foreign countries and in and to any and all divisions, reissues, continuations, continuation-in-part, and extensions thereof including the full right to claim for any such applications the benefits of the International Convention.

Assignor hereby authorizes and requests the Patent Office Officials in the United States and in any and all foreign countries to issue any and all of said Letters Patent, when granted, to said Assignee as the owner of the entire right, title and interest in and to the same, for the sole use and behoof of said Assignee, its successors and assigns.

FURTHER, Assignor agrees to communicate to said Assignee or its representatives any facts known to Assignor respecting said invention, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuation, continuation-in-part, substitution, 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 in any and all foreign countries.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand on the date appearing next to my signature.

Witness:

Inventor:

Scott T. Franson

Date:
6/21/01