

08-03-2001



FORM PTO-1596
1-31-92

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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DOCKET NO.: 4495-017

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

<p>1. Name of conveying party(ies): Tanehira AMANO and Takao KOBAYASHI <i>7-2601</i></p> <p>Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?</p>	<p>2. Name and address of receiving party(ies): Name: NHK SPRING CO., LTD.</p> <p>Internal Address:</p> <p>Street Address: 10, Fukuura 3-chome, Kanazawa-ku, Yokohama-shi</p> <p>City: Kanagawa State or Area:</p> <p>Zip/Postal Code: Country: Japan</p>
<p>3. Nature of conveyance:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment <input type="checkbox"/> Merger</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Security Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Name</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>	

J1046 U.S. PTO
09/912602
07/26/01

Execution Date: July 19, 2001	Additional name(s) & address(es) attached?
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4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If the document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: **July 19, 2001**

A. Patent Application No(s).	B. Patent No(s).
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Additional numbers attached?

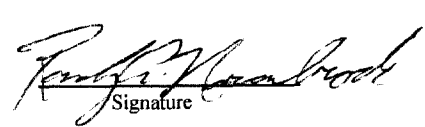
<p>5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:</p> <p>Name: LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER</p> <p>Internal Address:</p> <p>Street Address: 1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 310</p> <p>City: Alexandria State: VA ZIP: 22314</p>	<p>6. Total number of applications and patents involved: one</p> <p>7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) \$40.00</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit Card payment form enclosed</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Authorized to be charged to deposit account</p> <p>8. Deposit account number: 07-1337</p>
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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.

Randy A. Noranbrock
Reg. No. 42,940


Signature

July 26, 2001
Date

Total number of pages comprising cover sheet: 2

CMB No. 0851-0011 (exp. 4/94)

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PATENT
REEL: 012027 FRAME: 0375

ASSIGNMENT

In consideration of the premises and other good and valuable consideration in hand paid, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned,

- (1) Tanehira AMANO (4) _____
- (2) Takao KOBAYASHI (5) _____
- (3) _____ (6) _____

who have made a certain new and useful invention, hereby sell, assign and transfer unto

NHK SPRING CO., LTD.

its successors and assigns (hereinafter designated "ASSIGNEE") the entire right, title and interest for the United States of America as defined in 35 U.S.C. 100 in the invention entitled

Driving Unit and Tensioner

(a) for which an application for United States Letters Patent was filed on , and identified by United States Serial No. ; or

(b) for which an application for United States Letters Patent was executed on ,

and the undersigned hereby authorize and request the United States Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any and all United States Letters Patent which may be granted therefor and any and all extensions, divisions, reissues, substitutes, renewals, continuations, or continuations-in-part thereof, and the right to all benefits under the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property to the said ASSIGNEE, for its interest as ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns and legal representatives; the undersigned agree that the attorneys of record in said application shall hereafter act on behalf of said ASSIGNEE;

AND the undersigned hereby agree to transfer a like interest, and to render all necessary assistance in making application for and obtaining original, divisional, reissued or extended Letters Patent of the United States, upon request of the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, and without further remuneration, in and to any improvements, and applications for patent based thereon, growing out of or related to the said invention; and to execute any papers by the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, deemed essential to ASSIGNEE's full protection and title in and to the invention hereby transferred.

SIGNED on the dates indicated aside our signatures:

INVENTORS

DATE SIGNED

- 1) Tanehira Amano
Name: Tanehira AMANO
- 2) Takao Kobayashi
Name: Takao KOBAYASHI
- 3) _____
Name: _____
- 4) _____
Name: _____
- 5) _____
Name: _____
- 6) _____
Name: _____

- 19 July, 2001
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