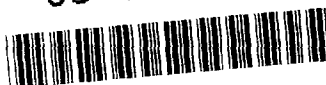


08-13-2001

PATENT

In place of Form PTO-1595



JACKET NUMBER: RPS920010041US1

07/30/01 RECORD

101808828

PATENT - PATENTS

To the Assistant Commissioner for Patents: Please record the attached original document(s) or copy thereof:

## 1. Name of conveying party(ies):

William Edward Atherton  
Gregory Joseph McKnight  
William Joseph Piazza

## Execution Dates

July 27, 2001  
July 30, 2001  
July 30, 2001

## 2. Name and address of receiving party:

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS  
MACHINES CORPORATION  
New Orchard Road  
Armonk, New York 10504

Additional name(s) &amp; address(es) attached?

Yes XXX No

3. Nature of conveyance: XXX Assignment Execution Date: July 27, 2001; July 30, 2001; July 30, 2001

## 4. Application or patent number(s):

09/918330

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is July 27, 2001; July 30, 2001; July 30, 2001

## A. Patent Application No.(s):

## B. Patent No.(s):

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

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORP.  
Customer No.: 25299

25299

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 17. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41): \$ 40.00X Authorized to be charged to deposit account8. Deposit account number: 09-1990

(Duplicate copy of this sheet is attached)

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01 FC:581 40.00 CH

## 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.

Martin McKinley

Name of Person Signing

Signature

7-30-01

Date

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

Mail document(s) to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Box Assignments  
Washington, D. C. 20231PATENT  
REEL: 012051 FRAME: 0697

## ASSIGNMENT

Whereas, we,

- (1) William Edward Atherton, of Durham,  
County of Durham, State of North Carolina;
- (2) Gregory Joseph McKnight, of Chapel Hill,  
County of Durham, State of North Carolina;
- and
- (3) William Joseph Piazza of Holly Springs,  
County of Wake, State of North Carolina;

have invented certain improvements in

**System and Method for Identifying One or More  
Optimum Configurations of a Data Processing System**

and executed, respectively, a United States patent application therefor on (Date Inventor Signed Declaration)

- (1) 07-27-01, 2001; (2) 07-~~28~~-2001, 2001;  
(3) 07/30/2001, 2001.

Whereas, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION, a corporation of New York, having a place of business at Armonk, New York 10504, (hereinafter called IBM), desires to acquire the entire right, title and interest in the said application and invention, and to any United States and foreign patents to be obtained therefor;

Now therefore, for a valuable consideration, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, we, the above named, hereby sell, assign, and transfer to IBM, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in the said application and invention therein disclosed for the United States and foreign countries, and all rights of priority resulting from the filing of said United States application, and we request the Commissioner of Patents to issue any Letters Patent granted upon the invention set forth in said application to IBM, its successors and assigns; and we hereby agree that IBM may apply for foreign Letters Patent on said invention and we will execute all papers necessary in connection with the United States and foreign applications when called upon to do so by IBM.

City/State

Date

Signature

(1) Durham, NC

07-27-01

William E Atherton  
William Edward Atherton

(2) Durham, NC

07-30-2001

Gregory Joseph McKnight  
Gregory Joseph McKnight

(3) DURHAM NC

07/30/2001

William Joseph Piazza  
William Joseph Piazza