

R^r

08-08-2001

FEET

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patent



ed original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

101803435

ss of receiving party(ies)

Steven Henry Buss, Todd Lynn Smith, and

Scott Michael Braemer

Name: Deere & Company

Internal Address:

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No

3. Nature of conveyance:

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

Execution Date: July 30, 2001

Street Address: 300 North Vine Street

City: Horicon State: WI Zip: 53032-1100

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes No

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: July 30, 2001

A. Patent Application No.(s) TBA

B. Patent No.(s)

08/03/2001 MWOLDER1 00000050 09918588

03 FC:581

40.00 DP

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

Name: Michael R. Crabb

Internal Address:

Street Address: 801 Grand, Suite 3200

City: Des Moines State: IA Zip: 50309-2721

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40.00

Enclosed [Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 26-0084]

Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number:

(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.

Michael R. Crabb

Name of Person Signing

Michael R. Crabb

Signature

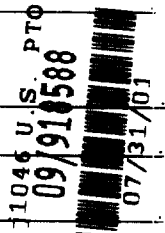
7/31/2001

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 2

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

PATENT
REEL: 012056 FRAME: 0169



ASSIGNMENT

The below named inventor(s) own(s) the entire right title and interest to the invention ("the Invention") which is the subject of a United States patent application ("the Application") entitled:

MOWER DECK REAR DRAFT QUICK HITCH

which each inventor has executed on the date indicated below next to each inventor's name.

Pursuant to an agreement between each inventor and Deere & Company, a Delaware corporation having its principal office at Moline, Illinois, as well as other good and valuable considerations paid to each inventor, each inventor agrees to assign, and hereby does assign to Deere & Company the entire right, title and interest which said inventor has or may have to the Invention.

The assigned rights include all rights to file US and foreign patent applications for the Invention described in the name of each inventor or Deere & Company, as well as any right of priority to any letters patent of the United States or any other country that may be granted for the Invention, and any continuations, divisions or extensions thereof. These assigned rights are to be held and enjoyed by Deere & Company, its successors or assigns, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by each inventor had this assignment not been made.

Each inventor agrees to execute all papers which Deere & Company, its successors or assigns deem expedient in connection with the Application and any continuing, divisional, reissue, reexamination or foreign applications concerning the Invention, and to cooperate with Deere & Company, its successors or assigns in every proper way possible to obtain patent(s) based on the Application and any continuing, divisional, reissue, reexamination or foreign applications concerning the Invention.

Each inventor hereby authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any letters patent based on the assigned rights to Deere & Company.

In witness whereof, each inventor has signed below:

Steven Henry Buss
Steven Henry Buss

Date signed application 30 JUL 2001
of Horicon, Wisconsin

Todd Lynn Smith
Todd Lynn Smith

Date signed application 30 July 2001
of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin

Scott Michael Braemer
Scott Michael Braemer

Date signed application 30 July 2001
of Mayville, Wisconsin

State of Wisconsin)
County of Dodge)

Sworn to before me this 30th day of July, 2001.

SEAL

James Waas
Notary Public

Assignment

The entire right, title and interest in and to this application and all subject matter disclosed and/or claimed therein, including any and all divisions, continuations, reissues, etc., thereof are, effective as of the date of execution of this application, assigned, transferred, sold and set over by the applicant(s) named herein to Deere & Company, a Delaware corporation having offices at Moline, Illinois 61265, U.S.A., together with all rights to file, and to claim priorities in connection with, corresponding patent applications in any and all foreign countries in the name of Deere & Company or otherwise.