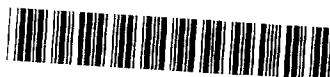


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### ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, I, **Everett R. SALINAS**, am the sole inventor of **"CABLE COUPLER"** application for United States Letters Patent which is executed of even date herewith; and

WHEREAS, **COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P.**, a Texas limited partnership, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to the aforesaid invention throughout the world, and all right, title and interest in, to and under any and all Letters Patent of the United States and all other countries throughout the world;

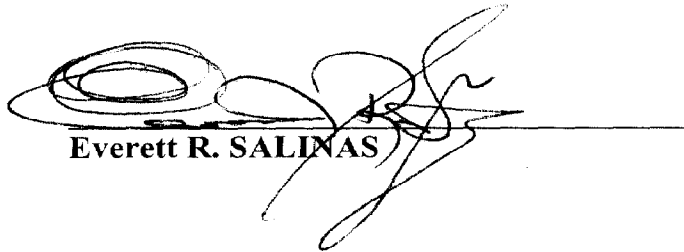
NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, I hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over to **COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P.**, all right, title and interest in and to the said invention throughout the world, and said application for U.S. Letters Patent, and any and all divisions, continuations, and reissues thereof, and any and all Letters Patent of the United States and foreign countries which may be granted therefor, the same to be held and enjoyed by **COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P.**, for its own use and benefit, and for the use and benefit of its successors, assigns, or other legal representatives, to the end of the term or terms for which said Letters Patent of the United States or foreign countries are or may be granted or reissued, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by me if this assignment and sale had not been made.

And I hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any and all Letters Patent of the United States on said invention or resulting from said application and from any and all divisions, continuations, and reissues thereof, to **COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P.**, as assignee of my entire interest, and hereby covenant that I have the full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that I have not executed and will not execute any agreement in conflict herewith.

And I further hereby covenant and agree that I will, at any time, upon request, execute and deliver any and all papers that may be necessary or desirable to perfect the title of said invention and to such Letters Patent as may be granted therefor, to **COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P.**, its successors, assigns, or other legal representatives and that if **COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P.**, its successors, assigns or other legal representatives shall desire to file any divisional or continuation applications or to secure a reissue of such Letters Patent, or to file a disclaimer relating thereto, will upon request, sign all papers, make all rightful oaths and do all lawful acts requisite for the filing of such divisional or continuation application, or such application for reissue and the procuring thereof, and for the filing of such disclaimer, without further compensation but at the expense of said assignee, its successors, or other legal representatives.

And I do further covenant and agree that I will, at any time upon request, communicate to COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., its successors, assigns or other legal representatives, such facts relating to said invention and Letters Patent or the file history thereof as may be known to me, and testify as to the same in any interference or other litigation when requested so to do, without further compensation but at the expense of said assignee, its successors, or other legal representatives.

EXECUTED THIS 9 day of Aug, 2001.

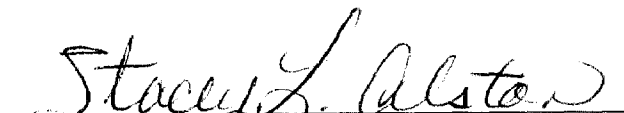
  
Everett R. SALINAS

STATE OF TEXAS           §  
COUNTY OF HARRIS   §

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared **Everett R. SALINAS**, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND and seal of office this 9th day of August, 2001.



  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas