

09-11-2001

FORM PTO-1595
P21023.P03

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patent

101839943

Mail documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of Conveying party(ies):
ABE, Masanao
HAYAKAWA, Shinji
IWASAKA, Kikuo
MATSUSHITA, Minoru

08/31/01

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: ASAHI KOGAKU KOGYO KABUSHIKI KAISHA

Internal Address: _____

Street Address: 36-9, Maenochō 2-chōme,

Itabashi-ku, Tokyo, JAPAN

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

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

JC996 U.S. PTO
09/04/2001
09/942720
10/15/01

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other _____

Execution Date: August 29, 2001

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: August 29, 2001

A. Patent Application No.(s)

09/942720

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached: Yes No

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

Name: Bruce H. Bernstein

Internal Address: P21023

09/04/2001 BSAYAS11 00000037 09942720

02 FC:581

40.00 OP

Street Address: GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.

1941 Roland Clarke Place

City: Reston State: VA ZIP: 20191

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

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

Enclosed

Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number:

19-0089

(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

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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.

Bruce H. Bernstein, Reg. No. 29,027
Name of Person Signing

[Signature]
Signature

8/31/01

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document: 4

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

PATENT
REEL: 012142 FRAME: 0614

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ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, **Masanao ABE**, a citizen of JAPAN, whose post office address is c/o Asahi Kogaku Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha, 36-9, Maeno-cho 2-chome, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo 174-8639 JAPAN, **Shinji HAYAKAWA**, a citizen of JAPAN, whose post office address is c/o Asahi Kogaku Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha, 36-9, Maeno-cho 2-chome, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo 174-8639 JAPAN, **Kikuo IWASAKA**, a citizen of JAPAN, whose post office address is c/o Asahi Kogaku Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha, 36-9, Maeno-cho 2-chome, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo 174-8639 JAPAN and **Minoru MATSUSHITA**, a citizen of JAPAN, whose post office address is c/o Asahi Kogaku Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha, 36-9, Maeno-cho 2-chome, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo 174-8639 JAPAN, hereinafter referred to as the ASSIGNORS, have invented a certain improvement relating to

FLEXIBLE TUBE FOR AN ENDOSCOPE AND ELECTRONIC ENDOSCOPE
EQUIPPED WITH THE FLEXIBLE TUBE

for which they have jointly executed an application for Letters Patent of the United States which was filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on _____ and awarded Serial No. _____.

AND WHEREAS, Asahi Kogaku Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Japan, whose post office address is 36-9, Maeno-cho 2-chome, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo 174-8369 JAPAN, hereinafter known the ASSIGNEE, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest for the United States in and to said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, including any and all renewals, reissues, and prolongations thereof.

NOW, THIS WITNESSETH that for and in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00), and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, said Assignors hereby assign, sell and transfer to said ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives, the entire and exclusive right, title and interest in and to said invention and application, for the United States including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, said ASSIGNEE and its assigns and legal representatives to have, hold, exercise and enjoy the said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, including any and all renewals, reissues and prolongations thereof, with all the rights, powers, privileges, and advantages in any ways arising from or pertaining thereto, for and during the term or terms of any and all such Letters Patent when granted, including any and all renewals, reissues, and prolongations thereof, for the use and benefit of said ASSIGNEE and its assigns and legal representatives in as ample and beneficial a manner to all intents and purposes as the said ASSIGNORS might or could have held and enjoyed the same, if this assignment had not been made.

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AND said ASSIGNORS hereby agree to execute all papers necessary to file applications in the United States for said invention and to assign the same to said ASSIGNEE, or any assignee acquiring title to said invention, and to execute any other papers that may be needed in connection with filing said application and securing Letters Patent thereon.

AND said ASSIGNORS authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents to issue Letters Patent on said application, and on any and all divisions and continuations thereof, to said ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives, in accordance herewith.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, this assignment is executed by said ASSIGNORS, on the date indicated below.

Witnessed by:

Eiichi Ohashi 8/29/2001
Name Date

Masanao ABE August 29, 2001
Masanao ABE Date

Mayuko Hayashino 8/29/2001
Name Date

Witnessed by:

Eiichi Ohashi 8/29/2001
Name Date

Shinji Hayakawa August 29, 2001
Shinji HAYAKAWA Date

Mayuko Hayashino 8/29/2001
Name Date

Witnessed by:

Seiichi Mori 8/29/2001
Name Date

Kikuo Iwasaka August. 29. 2001
Kikuo IWASAKA Date

Name Date

Witnessed by:

Eiichi Choshi 8/29/2001
Name Date

Minoru Matsushita August. 29. 2001.
Minoru MATSUSHITA Date

Mayuko Hayashi 8/29/2001
Name Date