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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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To the Honorable Commissioner of

Attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

- 1) Hideo TADANO 3) Akihiko KATO
2) Hiroaki TAKAHASHI

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

- [X] Assignment [] Merger
[] Security Agreement [] Change of Name
[] Other

Execution Date: August 8, 2001

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):

Name: Toyo Tire & Rubber Co., Ltd.

Internal Address:

Street Address: 17-18, Edobori 1-chome,

Nishi-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 550-8661 Japan

City: State: Zip:

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

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

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the filing date of the application is

A. Patent Application No.(s)

09/915,162

B. Patent No.(s)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Services as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner Of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on September 5, 2001

Dated: September 5, 2001

C. Bruce Hamburg
Reg. No. 22,389

Additional numbers attached? [] Yes [X] No

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

Name: C. Bruce Hamburg, Esq.

Internal Address: Jordan and Hamburg LLP
Chanin Building

Suite 4000

Street Address: 122 East 42nd Street

City: New York State: New York Zip: 10168

6. Total number of applications and patents involved:

1

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

[] Enclosed

[X] Authorized to be charged to deposit account

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8. Charge any excess or credit any refund to the same deposit account number indicated above.

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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.

C. Bruce Hamburg
Name of Person Signing

Signature

September 5, 2001
Date

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PATENT
REEL: 012152 FRAME: 0829

ASSIGNMENT

For value received, I/we, Hideo TADANO, Hiroaki TAKAHASHI and Akihiko KATO
residing ~~respectively~~ ^{all} at c/o Toyo Tire & Rubber Co., Ltd., 17-18,
Edobori 1-chome, Nishiku, Osaka, Japan

hereby sell, assign, and transfer to Toyo Tire & Rubber Co., Ltd.

a corporation existing under the laws of Japan
located at 17-18, Edobori 1-chome, Nishiku, Osaka, Japan

and its successors, assigns, and legal representatives, the entire right, title, and interest for all countries including the United States of America, in and to certain inventions relating to

LINK ROD

described in an application for Letters Patent of the United States

Serial No. _____ filed on July 25, 2001

and all patents which may be granted therefor, and all divisions, reissues, continuations and extensions thereof, and authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue all patents on said improvements or resulting therefrom to said Company as assignee of the entire interest, and covenant that I/we have full right so to do, and agree that I/we will communicate to said Company or its representatives any facts known to me/us respecting said improvements and testify in any legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuing and reissue applications, make all rightful oaths and generally do everything possible to aid said Company, its successors, assigns, and nominees, to obtain and enforce proper protection for said invention in the United States.

Signature Hideo TADANO
Hideo TADANO

Date August 8, 2001

Signature Hiroaki Takahashi
Hiroaki TAKAHASHI

Date August 8, 2001

Signature Akihiko Kato
Akihiko KATO

Date August 8, 2001

Signature _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Date _____