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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Anton E. Lazaro

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

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

Execution Date: September 4, 2001

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: Hardwood Line Manufacturing Co.

Internal Address: _____

Street Address: 4045 N. Elston Ave.

City: Chicago State: IL Zip: 60618

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: 4 Sept 01

A. Patent Application No.(s)

B. Patent No.(s)

0995 1793

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

Name: Irwin C. Alter

Internal Address: ALTER AND WEISS

Street Address: 19 S. LaSalle St
Suite 1650

City: Chicago State: IL Zip: 60603

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

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01-1154

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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.

IRWIN C. ALTER
Name of Person Signing

Irwin C. Alter
Signature

Sept. 11, '01
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents:

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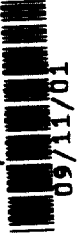
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LAW OFFICES OF
ALTER AND WEISS

ASSIGNMENT

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the following inventor or inventors (hereinafter called "ASSIGNOR")

Anton E. Lazaro

hereby assigns, transfers and sets over to:

Hardwood Line Manufacturing Co., an Illinois Corporation
4045 N. Elston Ave.
Chicago, IL 60618

(hereinafter called "ASSIGNEE"), the entire worldwide right, title and interest in and to the invention known as:

Improved Ribbed Electroplating Barrel

for which a United States Patent Application was executed on

4 Sept, 2001

and all rights and privileges under any Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, including all rights, if any, throughout the entire world to sue for all past infringements which may have occurred before the execution of this assignment.

(1) The ASSIGNOR agrees without charge to said ASSIGNEE but at its expense (a) to execute (i) all necessary papers to be used in connection with this application and any additional, continuing, or divisional applications, as the ASSIGNEE may deem necessary or expedient, (ii) all papers in connection with any interference or other legal or quasi-legal proceedings relating to this application or any additional, continuing, or divisional application thereof, (iii) all papers and documents which may be necessary in connection with the preparation and filing of any foreign applications or with making claims to priority rights granted under the provisions of the International Convention for Protection of Industrial Property or similar agreements; (b) to cooperate with ASSIGNEE in every way possible in obtaining evidence and going forward in any such proceedings; and (c) to perform all other affirmative acts which may be necessary or desirable to obtain a grant of a valid patent for said invention in any country throughout the world.

(2) ASSIGNOR hereby authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents of the United States, and the appropriate officials in any other country, to issue any and all Letters Patent that may be granted upon any patent application or any additional, continuing or divisional applications thereof to the ASSIGNEE, its successors and assigns.

(3) ASSIGNOR hereby covenants and warrants that he has full right to convey the entire right, title and interest by this instrument, free of any encumbrances and that no other agreement has been or will be executed in conflict herewith.

(4) ASSIGNOR hereby grants to the law firm of ALTER AND WEISS of Chicago, Illinois, authority and power to insert on this instrument any further identification which may be necessary or desirable for purposes of recordation in the United States Patent Office or the Patent Office of any foreign country.

Date 4 SEP 2001 Name of Inventor [Signature] (SEAL)
Date _____ Name of Inventor _____ (SEAL)
Date _____ Name of Inventor _____ (SEAL)
Date _____ Name of Inventor _____ (SEAL)

The execution by the inventor(s) should be witnessed by at least two witnesses who sign here. If this Assignment is signed outside the United States, it should preferably be signed before a United States Consul.

Witness _____
Witness _____