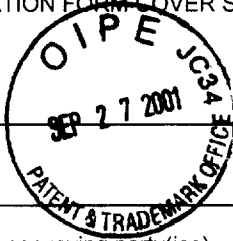




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To the Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof

1. Name of conveying party(ies) **92771**

(1) The Institute of Physical and Chemical Research
and
(2) Shimadzu Corporation

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

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

Names and Addresses:

(1) THE INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL RESEARCH
2-1, Hirosewa, Wako-shi, Saitama 351-0106, Japan

(2) SHIMADZU CORPORATION
1, Kuwabara-cho, Nishinokyo, Nagoya-ku,
Kyoto 604-8511, Japan

and

(3) JAPAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION
1-8, Hon-cho 4-chome, Kawaguchi-shi, Saitama 332-0012, Japan

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Assignment of a One-Third Interest

Execution Date: September 17, 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:

A. Patent Application No.(s) B. Patent No.(s)

09/443,720

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

Name: Arent Fox Kintner Plotkin & Kahn PLLC
Street Address: 1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339

6. Total number of applications and patents involved:
One

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

Included in Check # 326591.

Any additional fees are authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number: 01-2300
(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.

George E. Oram, Jr.

September 27, 2001

Name of Person Signing
Reg. No. 27,931

Signature

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 3

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, THE INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL RESEARCH and SHIMADZU CORPORATION, (hereinafter ASSIGNORS in this Assignment), two corporations duly organized under the laws of Japan, respectively having offices and places of business at 2-1, Hirosawa, Wako-shi. Saitama 351-0106, Japan; and 1, Kuwabara-cho, Nishinokyo, Nakagyo-ku, Kyoto 604-8511, Japan; are the owners of an undivided one-half interest in the invention entitled GEL CHARGER FOR CAPILLARY COLUMN, as described and claimed in United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/443,720, filed on November 19, 1999, and any Letters Patent of the United States obtained from any continuation, divisional, renewal, substitute or reissue of said Letters Patent for the full term or terms for which the same may be granted, by virtue of a deed of assignment recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on February 10, 2000, at reel 010540, frame 0892;

WHEREAS, each ASSIGNOR wishes to assign and transfer to JAPAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION (hereinafter ASSIGNEE in this Assignment), a corporation duly organized under the laws of Japan, having an office and a place of business at 1-8, Hon-cho 4-chome, Kawaguchi-shi, Saitama 332-0012, Japan, and whereas, ASSIGNEE wishes to acquire, an undivided one-third interest in said invention and said United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/443,720 from said ASSIGNORS;

NOW, THEREFORE, TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Be it known that in consideration of the payment by ASSIGNEE to each ASSIGNOR of the sum of One Dollar (\$ 1.00), and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, each ASSIGNOR hereby sells, assigns and transfers to ASSIGNEE an undivided one-sixth interest of each ASSIGNOR'S interest in said invention and said Patent Application Serial No. 09/443,720, and our Letters Patent of the United States obtained for any continuation, divisional, renewal, substitute or reissue of said Letters Patent for the full term or terms for which the same may be granted, such that, upon execution of this assignment, each ASSIGNOR will retain an undivided one-third interest and ASSIGNEE will have an undivided one-third interest.

ASSIGNORS hereby covenant that no assignment, sale, agreement or encumbrance has been or will be made or entered into which would conflict with the Assignment and sale.

ASSIGNORS further covenant that they will, upon request by the ASSIGNEE, promptly provide all pertinent facts and documents relating to said invention and said Letters Patent as may be known and accessible to ASSIGNORS and will testify as to the same in any interference or litigation related thereto and will promptly execute and deliver to ASSIGNEE or its legal representative any and all papers, instruments or affidavits required to apply for, obtain, maintain and enforce said Letters Patent which may be necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand and seal this 17th day of July, 2001.

Assignor: THE INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL RESEARCH

By: S. Kobayashi

Name: Shun-ichi KOBAYASHI

Title: President

Assignor: SHIMADZU CORPORATION

By: Yoshiaki Nishioka

Name: Yoshiaki NISHIOKA

Title: General Manager, Legal & Intellectual Property Department