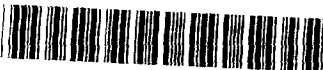


10-04-2001

FORM PTO-1595  
1-31-92



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

101864501

To the Assistant Commissioner for Patents. Please record and index the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

**Robert V. WIEDENHAFT  
Rick L. YODER**

*09/25/01*

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

Name: **Thermo Fibergen, Inc.**

Address:

**81 Wyman Street  
Waltham, Massachusetts 02254-9046**

1002 U.S. PTO  
09/25/01

3. Nature of Conveyance: Assignment

Execution Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2001

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

4. This document is being filed together with a new application. The execution date of the application is: \_\_\_\_\_

*09/25/01*

NO ADDITIONAL NUMBERS ATTACHED.

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

**Barry W. Sufrin  
Michael Best & Friedrich, L.L.C.  
401 North Michigan Avenue #1700  
Chicago, Illinois 60611**

Phone: **(312) 661-2100**

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

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

Enclosed

Deficiencies in fee charged to Deposit Account

8. Deposit account number: DepAcctNo

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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.*

Reg. No. **27,398**

**Barry W. Sufrin**

*Barry W. Sufrin*  
Signature

*9/25/01*  
Date

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

OMB No. 0651-0011 (exp. 4/94) H:\PFORM\ASSIGN.C51

Attorney File **204822-0084**

204822-0084 assignment cover 14 sept 2001  
S:\CLIENT\204822\0084\C0034818  
09/14/01

10/03/2001 FDIAZI 00000096 09962515  
01 FC:5A1 40.00 OP

**PATENT  
REEL: 012209 FRAME: 0543**

**ASSIGNMENT**

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

**Robert V. Wiedenhaft**  
**1453 Biemeret Street**  
**Green Bay, Wisconsin 54304**

**Rick L. Yoder**  
**2750 Newberry**  
**Green Bay, Wisconsin 54302**

hereby assigns, transfers and sets over to:

**Thermo Fibergen, Inc.**  
**81 Wyman Street**  
**Waltham, Massachusetts 02254-9046**

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

**CLUMPING CELLULOSIC ANIMAL LITTER**

for which United States Patent Application was filed on herewith under Serial No. (unknown) 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 and Trademarks 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 Michael Best & Friedrich, L.L.C. 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 and Trademark Office or a Patent Office of any foreign country.

Date 9/19/01 Signature of Inventor Robert V. Wiedenhaft  
**Robert V. Wiedenhaft**

Date 9/19/01 Signature of Inventor Ricky L. Yoder  
**Ricky L. Yoder**

Signed before me this 19 day of Sept, 2001  
Dawn A. Jansky  
Notary Public

My commission expires: July 7, 2002