COMMERC	DEC 0 3 2001 (2) 10190	08417 IET U.S. DEPARTMENT OF PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF PATENT AND TRADEMARK
To the Honorable Commission attents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.		
1. N	lame of conveying party(ies):	2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):
S	Stewart C. JEPSON	Name: Air Liquide America Corporation
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes ■ No		Internal Address: 2700 Post Oak Blvd, Suite 1800
3 N	lature of Conveyance:	Street Address: 2700 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1800
E	Assignment Merger Security Agreement Change of Name Other Execution Date: January 22, 2001	City: Houston State: TX Zip: 77056 Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes ■ No
	pplication number(s) or patent number(s): this document is being filed together with a new application	ation, the execution date of the application is:
	A. Patent Application No.(s): Application No: 09/735,178 illed: December 12, 2000	B. Patent No.(s):
	Additional numbers attact	 hed? Yes ■No
C	lame and address of party to whom correspondence oncerning document should be mailed: lame: Linda K. Russell	Total number of applications and patents involved:
In	nternal Address: 2700 Post Oak Blvd., Ste. 1800	7. Total fee (37 C.F.R. § 3.41) \$40.00
S	treet Address: 2700 Post Oak Blvd., Ste. 1800	Enclosed ■ Authorized to be charged to deposit account
•	ity: Houston State: TX Zip: 77056	8. Deposit account number: 01-1375 (Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)
705/2001 DBYRNE 00000119 011375 09735178 DO NOT USE THIS SPACE FC:581 40.00 CH		

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.

<u>Linda K. Russell, Reg. No. 34,918</u> Name of Person Signing

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and documents: 2

Ref. No.: 5553 US

Assignment of Invention

WHEREAS, I, <u>Stewart C. JEPSON</u> of <u>1021 Summit Hills Lane, Napperville, IL. 60563</u>, have invented certain new and useful improvements in: <u>METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR EFFICIENT UTILIZATION OF A CRYOGEN FOR INERT COVER IN METALS MELTING FURNACES</u> for which an application for Letters Patent was filed on **December 12**, 2000, having Serial No. 09/735,178:

WHEREAS, AIR LIQUIDE AMERICA CORPORATION (hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE") having a place of business at: 2700 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1800, Houston, Texas 77056, U.S.A. desires to acquire from **Stewart C. JEPSON**, the entire right, title and interest he has in and to said invention and in and to any Letters Patent that may be granted thereof in the United States and its territorial possessions;

NOW, THEREFORE, for valuable consideration, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, I, by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto said ASSIGNEE, all of my rights to the said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions and my entire right, title and interest in and to any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor in the United States and its territorial possessions and in and to any and all divisions, reissues, continuations, substitutions and renewals thereof.

I hereby authorize and request the Patent Office Officials in the United States and its territorial possessions to issue any and all of said Letters Patent, when granted, to said ASSIGNEE as the assignee of my entire right, title and interest in and to the same, for the use and behalf of said ASSIGNEE, its successors and assigns, to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by me had this Assignment and sale not been made.

Further, I agree that I will communicate to said ASSIGNEE or its representatives any facts known to us respecting said invention, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuation, substitute, renewal and reissue applications, execute all necessary assignment papers to cause any and all of said Letters Patent to be issued to said ASSIGNEE, make all rightful oaths, and, generally do everything possible to aid said ASSIGNEE, its successors and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper protection for said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions.

The undersigned hereby grants authorized representatives of the above identified ASSIGNEE the power to insert on this assignment any further identification which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document.

EXECUTED AT: U.S.A.

Date: 1(22(0)

Stewart C. JEPSON, (Inventor)

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RECORDED: 12/03/2001

PATENT REEL: 012335 FRAME: 0913