01-10-2002 FORM PTO-1595 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE P21117.P05 PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE To the Honorable Commission 1 original documents or copy thereof. 101940169 1. Name of Conveying party(ies): 2. Name and address of receiving party(ies) KAWAKAMI, Noriaki SATO. Koji JAN 0 3 2002 Name: SHOWA IKA KOHGYO CO., LTD. MATSUYAMA, Yukihiro ORIBE, Kazuya TAKAMIDO, Hiroshi Internal Address: Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached Street Address: 1-1, Hongo, Meito-ku, Nagoya-shi, 3. Nature of conveyance: X Assignment ___ Merger Aichi-ken, JAPAN ___ Security Agreement ___ Change of Name _____ State:_____ ZIP ___ Other____ Execution Date: December 19, 2001 Additional name(s) and 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 execution date of the application is: A. Patent Application No.(s) B. Patent No.(s) 09/880,072 Additional numbers attached: ___ Yes X No 5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning 6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1 document should be mailed: 7. Total Fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40.00 Name: Bruce H. Bernstein X Enclosed Internal Address: P21117 ___ Authorized to be charged to deposit account 8. Deposit account number:

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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.

ZIP: <u>20191</u>

Bruce H. Bernstein, Reg. No. 29,027

Street Address: ___GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.

1941 Roland Clarke Place

Kizzu 33, 684

Name of Person Signing

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Washington, D.C. 20231

REEL: 012427 FRAME: 0697

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ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, Noriaki Kawakami, a citizen of Japan, whose post office address is 1-3-11, Shoken, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi-ken, Japan, Koji Sato, a citizen of Japan, whose post office address is 30-5, Kone, Sumiyoshi-cho, Anjo-shi, Aichi-ken, Japan, Yukihiro Matsuyama, a citizen of Japan, whose post office address is 34-2, Gokenya-cho, Showa-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi-Ken, Japan, Kazuya Oribe, a citizen of Japan, whose post office address is c/o Showa Ika Kohgyo Co., Ltd., 3-4-30, Shibakouen, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan, and Hiroshi Takamido, a citizen of Japan, whose post office address is c/o Showa Ika Kohgyo Co., Ltd., 1-1, Hongo, Meito-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi-Ken, Japan, hereinafter referred to as the ASSIGNORS, have invented a certain improvement relating to

Vertebral Connecting Rod and Spinal Osteosynthesis Device Using The Same

If this Assignment is filed after the filing date of the above-identified application, the undersigned hereby authorize and request any one of the attorneys of record in this application, including Neil F. Greenblum, Reg. No. 28,394, Bruce H. Bernstein, Reg. No. 29,027, Arnold Turk, Reg. No. 33,094, and James L. Rowland, Reg. No. 32,674, of the firm Greenblum & Bernstein, P.L.C., whose address is 1941 Roland Clarke Place, Reston, Virginia 20191, to insert here in parenthesis (Application No. 09/880,072 _______, filed June 14, 2001) the filing date and application number of said application when known.

AND WHEREAS, **Showa Ika Kohgyo Co., Ltd.**, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Japan, whose post-office address is 1-1, Hongo, Meito-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi-ken, Japan, hereinafter known as the ASSIGNEE, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest for the United States in and to said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, including any and all renewals, reissues, and prolongations thereof.

NOW, THIS WITNESSETH that for and in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, said ASSIGNORS hereby assign, sell and transfer to said ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives, the entire and exclusive right, title and interest in and to said invention and application, for the United States including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor, said ASSIGNEE and its assigns and legal representatives to have, hold, exercise and enjoy the said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, including any and all renewals, reissues and prolongations thereof, with all the rights, powers, privileges, and advantages in any ways arising from or pertaining thereto, for and during the term or terms of any and all such Letters Patent when granted, including any and all renewals, reissues, and prolongations thereof, for the use and benefit of said ASSIGNEE and its assigns and legal representatives in as ample and beneficial a manner to all intents and purposes as the said ASSIGNORS might or could have held and enjoyed the same, if this assignment had not been made.

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AND said ASSIGNORS hereby agree to execute all papers necessary to file applications in the United States for said invention and to assign the same to said ASSIGNEE, or any assignee acquiring title to said invention, and to execute any other papers that may be needed in connection with filing said application and securing Letters Patent thereon.

AND said ASSIGNORS authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents to issue Letters Patent on said application, and on any and all divisions and continuations thereof, to said ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives, in accordance herewith.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, this assignment is executed by said ASSIGNORS, on the respective date(s) indicated below.

Witnessed by:

 \sqrt{g} Dec/19/200

Name Takwa MIYAMOTO Date

Dec/19/2001

N**oriaki Kawakami** Date

11 Jane

Dec/19/2001

me Dat Masahiro YOSHIKAWA

Witnessed by:

MJanus W Dec/19/2001

Name Date Takuya MIYAMOTO

1/2 / An I / D- - /10/2001

Name Date
Masahiro YOSHIKAWA

Witnessed by:

Dec/19/2001

Date

. Takuya MIYAMOTO

Dec/19/2001

Date

Masahiro YOSHIKAWA

Witnessed by:

Date

Takuya MIYAMOTO

Name

Dec/19/2001

Date

Masahiro YOSHIKAWA

Witnessed by:

Dec/19/2001

Date

Takuya MIYAMOTO

Masahiro YOSHIKAWA

Yukihiro Matsuyama Date

Kazuya Oribe

Dec/19/2001

Date

PATENT REEL: 012427 FRAME: 0700

RECORDED: 01/03/2002