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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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Attorney Docket No. 111855

11017 U.S. PTO

10/059393



01/31/02

To the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: Please record the attached original document or copy thereof.

1. A. Name of conveying party:  
Hiroki AKAOKA  
  
B. Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?  
 Yes  No

2. A. Name and address of receiving party:  
MINEBEA CO., LTD.  
4106-73 MIYOTA, MIYOTA-MACHI,  
KITASAKU-GUN, NAGANO-KEN,  
JAPAN  
  
B. Additional name(s) & address(es) attached?  
 Yes  No

3. A. Nature of conveyance:  
 Assignment  Merger  
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 Other \_\_\_\_\_  
  
B. Execution Date: January 30, 2002

4. A. If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: January 30, 2002  
  
B. Patent Application No.(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
C. Patent No.(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No 10059393

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:  
  
Name: James A. Oliff  
  
Address: **OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, VA 22320**

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1  
  
7. A. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41)..... \$ 40.00  
B. Enclosed (Check No. 127389)  
  
8. Credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to deposit account number 15-0461.

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*  
  
Thomas J. Pardini  
James A. Oliff Registration No. 27,075  
Thomas J. Pardini Registration No. 30,411  
  
Date: January 31, 2002

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

02/08/2002 6TON11 00000222 10059393

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**PATENT**  
**REEL: 012550 FRAME: 0335**

# ASSIGNMENT

(1-8) Insert Name(s) of Inventor(s)

(1) Hiroki AKAOKA (5) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (6) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (7) \_\_\_\_\_ and  
 (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (8) \_\_\_\_\_

In consideration of the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable considerations paid to each of the undersigned, the undersigned agree(s) to assign, and hereby does assign, transfer and set over to

(9) Insert Name of Assignee (9) Minebea Co., Ltd.  
 (10) Insert Address of Assignee (10) 4106-73 Miyota, Miyota-machi, Kitasaku-gun, Nagano-ken, Japan  
 (hereinafter designated as the Assignee) the entire right, title and interest for the United States of America as defined in 35 U.S.C. § 100, in the invention, and in all applications for patent including any and all divisions, continuations, substitutes, and reissues, and all Letters Patent, extensions, reissues and reexamination certificates that may be granted on the invention known as  
 (11) Insert Identification, such as Title, Case Number or Foreign Application Number (11) SPREAD ILLUMINATING APPARATUS  
 (Case No. 111855)  
 For which the undersigned has (have) executed an application for patent in the United States of America  
 (12) Insert Date of Signing of Application (12) on January 30, 2002  
 (13) Alternative identification for filed applications (13) U.S. application Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 filed January 31, 2002

- 1) The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with the application and any continuing, divisional or reissue applications for the invention, and any patent(s) issuing thereon, and also to execute separate assignments in connection with such applications and patents as the Assignee may deem necessary.
- 2) The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with any interference which may be declared concerning this application or continuation or division thereof, or any patent or reissue application based thereon, and to cooperate with the Assignee in every way possible in obtaining evidence and going forward with such interference.
- 3) The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers and documents and perform any act which may be necessary in connection with claims or provisions of the International Convention for Protection of Industrial Property or similar agreements.
- 4) The undersigned agree(s) to perform all affirmative acts which may be necessary to obtain, maintain or confirm by reissue or reexamination a grant of a valid United States Patent to the Assignee.
- 5) The undersigned hereby authorize(s) and request(s) the Director of Patents to issue any and all Letters Patents of the United States resulting from said application or any divisional, continuing or reissue applications to the said Assignee, as Assignee of the entire interest, and hereby covenants that he has (they have) full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that he has (they have) not executed, and will not execute, any agreements in conflict herewith.
- 6) The undersigned hereby grant(s) the firm of OLIFF & BERRIDGE 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.

bjn

In witness whereof, executed by the undersigned on the date(s) opposite the undersigned name(s).

Date January 30, 2002 Name of Inventor Hiroki AKAOKA (SEAL)  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Inventor \_\_\_\_\_ (SEAL)  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Inventor \_\_\_\_\_ (SEAL)  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Inventor \_\_\_\_\_ (SEAL)

This assignment should preferably be signed before: (a) a Notary Public if within the U.S.A.

(b) a U.S. Consul if outside the U.S.A. If neither, then it should be signed before at least two witnesses who also sign here:

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Witness \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_ Witness \_\_\_\_\_