

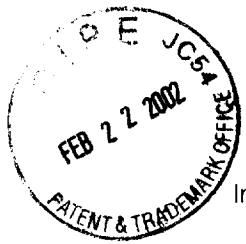
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In re patent application of )  
 Barry W. Simkins, et al. ) Attorney Docket No.: A-208  
 Serial No.: 10/023,183 ) Date: February 5, 2002  
 Filed: December 17, 2001 )  
 Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ENVELOPE FLAP OPENING

**RECORDATION OF ASSIGNMENT - PATENT APPLICATION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please record the attached original document(s) or copy(ies) in the records of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

1. Name of conveying party:  Barry W. Simkins Peter J. Watson	2. Name of receiving party:  Pitney Bowes Inc. 1 Elmcroft Road Stamford, CT 06926-0700
3. Nature of Conveyance: Assignment Execution Date: February 1, 2002	
4. Property Conveyed: Patent Application Serial Number: 10/023,183 Filed: December 17, 2001.	
5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning this document should be mailed:  Michael J. Cummings Pitney Bowes Inc. 35 Waterview Drive P.O. Box 3000 Shelton, CT 06484-8000	6. Total Number of Applications: 1 7. Total Recordal Fee: \$40.00 8. Charge the \$40.00 Fee to <b>Deposit Account No. 16-1885.</b>

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.

*Handwritten Signature: Michael J. Cummings*  
 Michael J. Cummings

February 5, 2002

Total number of pages including this cover sheet: 3

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# ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, we, Barry W. Simkins and Peter Watson have invented certain new and useful improvements in a **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ENVELOPE FLAP OPENING** identified as File Number **A-208** in the Intellectual Property and Technology Law Department files of the hereinafter-mentioned assignee, for which an application for United States Patent has been filed on December 17, 2001 under serial number 10/023,183;

AND WHEREAS, we acknowledge that at the time of the invention, we were under an obligation to convey the entire rights in the invention to the hereinafter-mentioned assignee;

AND WHEREAS, Pitney Bowes Ltd., (hereinafter corporation) having its place of business at The Pinnacles, Harlow, Essex, England is desirous of acquiring certain rights thereunder.

NOW, THEREFORE, for one dollar and other good and valuable consideration, receipt of all of which is hereby acknowledged, we have agreed to and hereby sell, assign and transfer unto said corporation the entire right, title and interest, in and throughout the United States of America (including its territories and dependencies) and all countries foreign thereto, in and to said invention, said application and any and all patents (including extensions thereof, and all the rights under the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property including the right to claim for any foreign patent application the priority date of the corresponding U.S. patent application) of any country, which have been or may be granted on said invention or any part thereof, or on said application or any divisional, continuing, renewal, substitute, reissue or other patent application based in whole or in part thereon, or based upon said invention;

TO BE HELD AND ENJOYED by said corporation, its successors and assigns, to the full ends of the respective terms of which said patents or any of them have been or may be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by us had no sale and assignment of said interest been made;

AND we do hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States of America to issue any and all United States patents which may be granted upon said United States application or any of them, or upon said invention or any part thereof, to said corporation;

AND we hereby agree for ourselves and for our heirs, executors and administrators, to execute without further consideration any further lawful documents and any further assurances, and any divisional, continuing, renewal, substitute, reissue, or other applications for patents of any country, that may be deemed necessary by said corporation fully to secure to said corporation, its interest as aforesaid in and to said invention or any part thereof, and in and to said several patents or any of them;

AND we do hereby covenant for ourselves and our legal representatives and agree with said corporation, its successors and assigns, that we have granted no right or license to make, use or sell said invention to anyone except said corporation, that, prior to the execution of this deed, our right, title and interest in said invention had not been otherwise encumbered, and that we have not executed and will not execute any instrument in conflict herewith.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and affixed our seals:

*Barry W. Simkins*

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Barry W. Simkins

*1/2/02*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Peter Watson*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Watson

*1/2/02*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date