

03-22-2002



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Form PTO-1595 (modified)  
(Rev. 03/01)  
OMB No. 0651-0027

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PATENTS ONLY

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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Shigeoki USAMI  
Kiyoharu KURIHARA  
Shigeo MAKINO  
Tsutomu TANAKA  
Okita KEIZO



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

BRIDGESTONE CORPORATION  
10-1, Kyobashi 1-chome, Chuo-ku,  
Tokyo, Japan

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?  Yes  No

3. Nature of conveyance:

- Assignment  Merger
- Security Agreement  Change of Name
- Other

Execution Date: 1) December 10, 2001; 2) December 6, 2001; 3) December 12, 2001; 4) December 6, 2001 and 5) January 16, 2002

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached?  Yes  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)  
09/950,696

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

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

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 800  
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213

6. Total number of applications and patents involved:

1

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

- Enclosed. Please charge any underpayment in connection with this Assignment to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.
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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.

*Neil B. Siegel*  
Neil B. Siegel

32,778  
Reg. No. 25,200

March 11, 2002

Date

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

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:

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03/21/2002 AAHMED1 00000102 194880 09950696  
01 FC:581 40.00 CH

PATENT  
REEL: 012694 FRAME: 0770

For Non-U.S. Clients

# ASSIGNMENT

Whereas, I/We, Shigeoki Usami Bridgestone Technical Center, 3-1-1, Urawahigashi-cho, Hachioji-city, Tokyo, Japan  
Kiyoharu Kuribara Bridgestone Technical Center, 3-1-1, Urawahigashi-cho, Hachioji-city, Tokyo, Japan  
Shigeo Makino Bridgestone Technical Center, 3-1-1, of Urawahigashi-cho, Hachioji-city, Tokyo, Japan  
Tsutomu Tanioka Bridgestone Technical Center, 3-1-1, Urawahigashi-cho, Hachioji-city, Tokyo, Japan  
Keizou Okita P/O Gaido, Rive Co., Ltd. 1-1-1, Minami-cho, Yamaguchi, Yamaguchi Prefecture, Japan

hereinafter called assignor(s), have invented certain improvements in

~~an improved method of...~~

and executed an application for Letters Patent of the United States of America therefor on

\_\_\_\_\_ ; and

Whereas, BRIDGESTONE CORPORATION  
 10-1, Kyobashi 1-chome, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan

(assignee), desires to acquire the entire right, title and interest in the application and invention, and to any United States patents to be obtained therefor;

Now therefore, for valuable consideration, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged,

I/We, the above named assignor(s), hereby sell, assign and transfer to the the above named assignee, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in the application and the invention disclosed therein for the United States of America, including the right to claim priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and I/we request the Commissioner of Patents to issue any Letters Patent granted upon the invention set forth in the application to the assignee, its successors and assigns; and I/we will execute without further consideration all papers deemed necessary by the assignee in connection with the United States application when called upon to do so by the assignee.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ s/ Shigeoki Usami  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Shigeoki Usami

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ s/ Kiyoharu Kuribara  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Kiyoharu Kuribara

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ s/ Kiyoharu Kuribara Shigeo Makino K.K.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Shigeo Makino

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ s/ Tsutomu Tanioka  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tsutomu Tanioka

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ s/ Keizou Okita  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Keizou Okita

(Legalization not required for recording but is prima facie evidence of execution under 35 U.S.C. § 261)