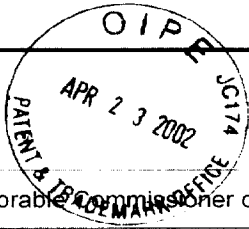


04-29-2002

Attorney Docket No. 8014-1001

Form PTO-1595



RE



EET

U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

102070682

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

1. Name of Conveying Party(ies):
Hiroshi HIKIMA 4-23-02

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

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)
 Name: **PIONEER CORPORATION**
 Address: **No. 4-1 Meguro 1-chome
 Meguro-ku
 Tokyo-to, Japan**

3. Nature of Conveyance:
 Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other: _____
 Execution Date: **February 21, 2002**

Additional name(s) and 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). **10/045,041**

B. Patent No(s). _____

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:
Customer No.: 000466
YOUNG & THOMPSON
Second Floor
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Phone: 703-521-2297

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41)..... **\$40.00**
 Enclosed
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit Account No. **25-0120**
 (Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

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.

Robert J. Patch April 23, 2002

Name of Person Signing Signature Date

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

04/26/2002 DBYRNE 0000039 250120 10045041
 01 FC:581 40.00 CH

A S S I G N M E N T

FOR ONE DOLLAR (\$1.00) and other valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I (We), Hiroshi HIKIMA

being the inventor(s) of certain improvements in

PRE-PIT DETECTING APPARATUS

U.S. Patent Appln. No. 10/045,041 filed on January 15, 2002 hereby assign unto PIONEER CORPORATION

having a principal place of business at

No. 4-1 Meguro 1-chome, Meguro-ku, Tokyo-to, Japan
our entire right, title and interest in and to such invention, together with the patent rights and rights of protection to the same throughout the world, including any patent rights which may result from the application for United States Letters Patent in and to any and all divisions, reissues, continuations and extensions thereof and in and to any Letters Patent that may be granted thereon; said invention, application and Letters Patent that may be granted thereon; said invention, application and Letters Patent to be held and enjoyed by the said assignee for its own use and behoof and for the use and behoof of its successors and assigns, to the full end of the term from which said Letters patent or other rights of protection may be granted, as fully and as entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by us had this assignment and sale not been made.

WE COVENANT, AGREE AND WARRANT that we have a full and unencumbered title to the invention hereby assigned, and we further covenant and agree that we will, at any time upon request, without further compensation, execute and deliver any and all papers or instruments that in the opinion of the assignee may be necessary or desirable to secure said assignee the full enjoyment of the rights and properties herein conveyed or intended to be conveyed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set out hand and seal this 21st day of February , 2002 .

Date: February 21, 2002

Hiroshi Hikima

Date: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____
