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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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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):

Frank Pluckhahn
Gerald Schmekel
Arno Weiss
Dietmar Franke

5-31-02

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

- ☒ Assignment ☐ Merger
☐ Security Agreement ☐ Change of Name
☐ Other _____

Execution Date: 04/08/2002

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: British American Tobacco (Germany)
GmbH

Internal Address: _____

Alsterufer 4, 20354

Street Address: _____

City: Hamburg State: Germany Zip: _____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) _____

10/120,002

B. Patent No.(s) _____

Additional numbers attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

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

Name: John F. SalazarInternal Address: Middleton Reutlinger2500 Brown & Williamson Tower

Street Address: _____

City: Louisville State: KY Zip: 402026. Total number of applications and patents involved: ☐ 17. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40.00

- ☒ Enclosed
☐ Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number:

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9. Signature.

John F. Salazar, Reg. No. 39,353
Name of Person Signing

05/31/2002

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: ☐ 3

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Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:
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Washington, D.C. 20231PATENT
REEL: 012945 FRAME: 0453


ASSIGNMENT OF INVENTION
AND OF LETTERS PATENT


Whereas, we, the (“**Inventors**”) **Frank Pluckhahn**, Leopoldstrabe 14a, 95444 Bayreuth, Germany; **Gerald Schmekel**, Schumacherstr. 72, 25337 Elmshorn, Germany; **Arno Weiss**, Scharpenmoor 94, 22848 Norderstedt, German and **Dietmar Franke**, Wichernstrabe 55, 95447 Bayreuth, Germany have invented certain improvements in **PROCESS GAS CONDITIONING FOR TOBACCO DRYERS**, the (“**Invention**”) corresponding to German Patent Application 101 17 783.6 filed on 10 April 2001, of which a United States Utility Patent Application is being filed, herewith, the (“**Application**”); and

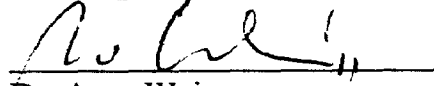
Whereas, the (“**Assignee**”) **British American Tobacco (Germany) GmbH**, Alsterufer 4, 20354, Hamburg, Germany, (including its successors and assigns), desires to acquire our entire right, title and interest in said **Application** and **Invention**, and any United States Patents to be obtained therefor;


Now therefore, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, we hereby assign and transfer unto said **Assignee**, the entire right, title and interest in said **Application** and the **Invention** disclosed therein for the United States of America, including rights of priority under the International Convention of Paris (1883) as amended and the entire right, title, and interest in and to any and all patent applications, patents, continuations, continuations-in-part, divisionals, and reissues based thereon which may be filed or granted therefor in the United States. We agree to cooperate with **Assignee** and to execute without additional consideration any additional documents as deemed necessary by **Assignee**, to apply for or maintain patents or other legal protection for the **Invention** in the United States of America.

We hereby authorize and request the U.S. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any Letters Patent granted upon the **Invention** set forth in this application to said Assignee.


Frank Pluckhahn

Executed this 12 day of April, 2002 at Bayreuth, Germany

Gerald Schmekel

Executed this 08 day of April, 2002 at Bayreuth, Germany

Dr. Arno Weiss

Executed this 12 day of April, 2002 at Bayreuth, Germany

Dietmar Franke

Executed this 16 day of April, 2002 at Bayreuth, Germany