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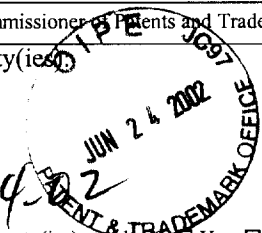
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R SHEET U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Docket No. 740613-123

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies)
Yoshiharu KUSABIRAKI
Ryotaro NISHIDA
Akinori WAKASA
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No



2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)
Name: Mazda Motor Corporation
Internal Address: _____
Street Address: 3-1, Shinchi, Fuchu-cho, Aki-gun
City: Hiroshima State: _____ Zip: _____
Country: Japan Postal Code: _____
Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes No

3. Nature of conveyance:
 Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other _____
Execution Date: March 26, 2002

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)
10/098,622
B. Patent No.(s)
Additional numbers attached? Yes No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:
Attorney Name: Donald R. Studebaker
Firm Name: Nixon Peabody LLP
Internal Address: Suite 800
Street Address: 8180 Greensboro Drive,
City: McLean State: VA Zip: 22102

7. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1
8. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41)\$ 40.00
 Enclosed
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account

6. Submission Type
 New
 Resubmission (Non-Recordation)
Document ID# _____
 Correction of PTO Error
Reel # _____ Frame # _____
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9. Deposit account number:
19-2380
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10. 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.
Donald R. Studebaker, Reg. No. 32,815
Name of Person Signing
[Signature] Signature
June 19, 2002 Date
Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: 3

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on June 19, 2002.
[Signature]
Name: M. Teresa Yacoub

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Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:
Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments
Washington, D.C. 20231

NVA230331.1

PATENT
REEL: 013032 FRAME: 0915

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, **Yoshiharu KUSABIRAKI, Ryotarou NISHIDA and Akinori WAKASA**(hereafter designated as the undersigned) have invented certain new and useful improvements in **EXHAUST SYSTEM FOR AUTOMOBILE ENGINE** for which an applicant for Letters Patent of the United States of America was filed on March 18, 2002 and assigned Serial No. 10/098,622, and;

WHEREAS, **MAZDA MOTOR CORPORATION** of 3-1, Shinchi, Fuchu-cho, Aki-gun, **Hiroshima, Japan**, its heirs, successors, legal representatives and assigns (hereafter designated as the Assignee) is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to any Letters Patent(s) that may be granted therefor in the United States of America;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) to the undersigned in hand paid, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and other good and valuable consideration, the undersigned has (have) sold, assigned and transferred, and by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto said Assignee the full and exclusive right to the said invention in the United States of America and its territories and for all foreign countries, dependencies and possessions and the entire right, title and interest in and to any and all Letters Patent(s) which may be granted therefor in the United States of America and its territories, dependencies, and possessions, and in and to any and all divisions, reissues, continuations and extensions thereof for the full term or terms for which the same may be granted.

The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with this application and any continuing, divisional or reissue application thereof and also to execute separate assignments in connection with such applications as the Assignee may deem necessary or expedient.

The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with any interference which may be declared concerning this application or any continuation, division or reissue thereof or Letters Patent(s) or reissue patent issued thereon and to cooperate with the Assignee in every way possible in obtaining and producing evidence and proceeding with such interference.

The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers and documents and to perform any act which may be necessary in connection with claims under or provisions of the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property or similar agreements..

The undersigned agree(s) to perform all affirmative acts which may be necessary to obtain a grant of a valid United States patent(s) to the Assignee and to vest all rights therein herein conveyed to said Assignee as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by the undersigned if this agreement and sale had not been made.

The undersigned hereby authorize(s) and request(s) the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any and all Letters Patents of the United States of America resulting from said application or any division or divisions or continuing or reissue applications thereof to the said Assignee, as Assignee of the entire interest, and hereby covenants that he has (they have) the full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that he has (they have) not executed, and will not execute, any agreement in conflict herewith.

The undersigned hereby grant(s) the law firm of **NIXON, PEABODY, LLP** the power to interest on this Assignment and further identification which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document.

In witness thereof, this Assignment has been executed by the undersigned on the date(s) opposite the undersigned name(s).

Date: March 26, 2002, Name of Inventor: Yoshiharu Kusabiraki (SEAL)
Yoshiharu KUSABIRAKI

Date: March 26, 2002, Name of Inventor: Ryotaro Nishida (SEAL)
~~Ryoutaro~~ NISHIDA
Ryotaro

Date: March 26, 2002, Name of Inventor: Akinori Wakasa (SEAL)
Akinori WAKASA

(This assignment should preferably be acknowledged before a United States Consul or Notary Public. If not, then, the execution by the Inventor(s) should be witnessed by at least two other persons who should sign here.)

Witness: Atsushi TSUNETOMO
(name)

Atsushi Tsunetomo
(signature)

Witness: Kiyoshi TATSUNO
(name)

Kiyoshi Tatsuno
(signature)