

07-30-2002



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Docket No.: P96050US1A, 2A and 1B

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

Tab settings → → →

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

**Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc.**

7.22.02

Additional names(s) of conveying party(ies) ☐ Yes ☒ No

3. Nature of conveyance:

- ☐ Assignment ☒ Merger  
☐ Security Agreement ☐ Change of Name  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Execution Date: **JULY 15, 2002**

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

Name: **Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC**

Internal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: **50 Century Boulevard**

City: **Nashville** State: **TN** ZIP: **37214**

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

4. Application number(s) or registration numbers(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: \_\_\_\_\_

A. Patent Application No.(s)

~~09/396,533~~  
~~09/441,564~~

B. Patent No.(s)

**5,971,046**

Additional numbers attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

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

Name: **Chief Intellectual Property Counsel**

Internal Address: **Bridgestone/Firestone Americas  
Holding, Inc.**

Street Address: **1200 Firestone Parkway**

City: **Akron** State: **OH** ZIP: **44317**

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: **3**

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41):.....\$ **120.00**

- ☐ Enclosed - Any excess or insufficiency should be credited or debited to deposit account  
☒ Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number:

**06-0925**

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.

**Meredith E. Palmer, Reg. No. 47,839**

Name of Person Signing

*Meredith E. Palmer*

Signature

**JULY 16, 2002**

Date

PATENT

REEL: 013117 FRAME: 0659

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MERGER**  
**OF**  
**BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE, INC.**  
**INTO**  
**BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE NORTH AMERICAN TIRE, LLC.**

WHEREAS, Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc., a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Ohio, having an address of 50 Century Boulevard, Nashville, Tennessee 37214, has been merged into Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of State of Delaware as evidenced by the Certified Copy of the Certificate of Merger attached hereto as Exhibit A;

WHEREAS, evidence of this merger has been recorded at the United States Patent and Trademark Office at **Reel 012333 Frame 0861**;

WHEREAS, Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc. has been the owner of United States applications for Letters Patent 09/396,533 filed on September 15, 1999 and 09/441,564 filed on November 17, 1999, and United States Patent Number 5,971,046, by virtue of an Assignment recorded at **Reel 8803 Frame 0753** at the United States Patent and Trademark Office;

WHEREAS, Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC desires to record its ownership position as sole owner of the entire right, title, and interest in and to United States applications for Letters Patent 09/396,533 filed on September 15, 1999 and 09/441,564 filed on November 17, 1999, and United States Patent Number 5,971,046; and

NOW, THEREFORE, Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC is successor to Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc. of all right, title and interest in and to United States applications for Letters Patent 09/396,533 filed on September 15, 1999 and 09/441,564 filed on November 17, 1999, and United States Patent Number 5,971,046.

Submitted for Recordation by

BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE NORTH  
AMERICAN TIRE, LLC.

By:

Name: Gary A. Garfield

Title: Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

Date: July 15, 2002



# Delaware

PAGE 1

## *The First State*

I, HARRIET SMITH WINDSOR, SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THE ATTACHED IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE CERTIFICATE OF MERGER, WHICH MERGES:

"BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE, INC.", A OHIO CORPORATION,

WITH AND INTO "BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE NORTH AMERICAN TIRE, LLC" UNDER THE NAME OF "BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE NORTH AMERICAN TIRE, LLC", A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY ORGANIZED AND EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, AS RECEIVED AND FILED IN THIS OFFICE THE TWENTY-NINTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, A.D. 2001, AT 2 O'CLOCK P.M.

AND I DO HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AFORESAID CERTIFICATE OF MERGER IS THE TWENTY-NINTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, A.D. 2001, AT 5 O'CLOCK P.M.



*Harriet Smith Windsor*

Harriet Smith Windsor, Secretary of State

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AUTHENTICATION: 1591360

020067082

DATE: 02-01-02

**PATENT**  
**REEL: 013117 FRAME: 0661**

**CERTIFICATE OF MERGER**

**OF**

**BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE, INC.**  
(an Ohio corporation)

STATE OF DELAWARE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS  
FILED 02:00 PM 11/29/2001  
010605929 - 3432780

**INTO**

**BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE NORTH AMERICAN TIRE, LLC**  
(a Delaware limited liability company)

Pursuant to Section 18-209 of the Delaware Limited Liability Company Act, as amended:

1. **Names and States of Organization of Constituent Entities.** Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc., a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio ("BFS"), will be merged ("Merger") with and into Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC, a limited liability company formed under the laws of the State of Delaware ("BFNT" and, together with BFS, "Constituent Entities"), at the Effective Time (as defined in paragraph 4 below);
2. **Approval and Execution of Agreement of Merger.** An agreement of merger regarding the Merger ("Agreement of Merger") (a) has been duly approved by the board of directors of BFS and the board of managers of BFNT and by the sole shareholder of BFS and the sole member of BFNT and (b) has been duly executed by each of the Constituent Entities;
3. **Name of Surviving Entity.** The surviving entity of the Merger will be BFNT ("Surviving Entity"), and its name is "Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC";
4. **Effective Time of Merger.** The Merger will become effective at 5:00 pm (Eastern Standard Time) on November 29, 2001 ("Effective Time");
5. **Place of Business of Surviving Entity Where Agreement of Merger Is on File.** The Agreement of Merger is on file at the offices of the Surviving Entity at One Bridgestone Park, Nashville, Tennessee 37214; and
6. **Copies of Agreement of Merger Furnished upon Request.** A copy of the Agreement of Merger will be furnished to any member of the Surviving Entity or any shareholder of BFS, without cost, upon request addressed to Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC, One Bridgestone Park, Nashville, Tennessee 37214, Attention: Secretary.

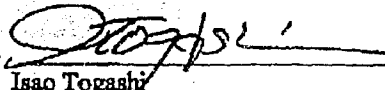
CH-1192852v1

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the Constituent Entities has caused this certificate to be executed on its behalf by its duly authorized officer this 29<sup>th</sup> day of November 2001.

BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE, INC.

By:   
John T. Lampe  
Chairman, CEO and President

BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE NORTH  
AMERICAN TIRE, LLC

By:   
Isao Togashi  
Vice Chairman and  
President