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Attorney Docket No. 113422

To the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: Please record the attached original document or copy thereof.

1. A. Name of conveying party:
Akihisa NISHIOKA

8.6.02

2. A. Name and address of receiving party:
MINEBEA CO., LTD.
4106-73 MIYOTA, MIYOTA-MACHI,
KITASAKA-GUN, NAGANO-KEN, JAPAN

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

3. A. Nature of conveyance:

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

B. Additional name(s) & address(es) attached?
 Yes No

B. Execution Date: August 6, 2002

4. A. If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: August 6, 2002

B. Patent Application No.(s) 10/212100 C. Patent No.(s) _____

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

Name: James A. Oliff

Address: **OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, VA 22320

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

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

B. Enclosed (Check No. 133209)

8. Credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to deposit account number 15-0461.

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.

Date: August 6, 2002

James A. Oliff Registration No. 17,075
Thomas J. Pardini Registration No. 30,411

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

U.S. PTO
10/212100
08/06/02

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PATENT
REEL: 013172 FRAME: 0943

ASSIGNMENT

(1-8) Insert Name(s) of Inventor(s) (1) Akihisa NISHIOKA (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) and (8)

In consideration of the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable considerations paid to each of the undersigned, the undersigned agree(s) to assign, and hereby does assign, transfer and set over to

(9) Insert Name of Assignee (9) c/o Minebea Co., Ltd. (10) Insert Address of Assignee (10) 4106-73 Miyota, Miyota-machi, Kitasaku-gun, Nagano-ken, Japan

(hereinafter designated as the Assignee) the entire right, title and interest for the United States of America as defined in 35 U.S.C. § 100, in the invention, and in all applications for patent including any and all divisions, continuations, substitutes, and reissues, and all Letters Patent, extensions, reissues and reexamination certificates that may be granted on the invention known as

(11) Insert Identification, such as Title, Case Number or Foreign Application Number (11) SPREAD ILLUMINATING APPARATUS WITH PROTECTION COVER

(Case No. 113342)

For which the undersigned has (have) executed an application for patent in the United States of America

(12) Insert Date of Signing of Application (12) on August 6, 2002

(13) Alternative identification for filed applications (13) U.S. application Serial Number filed August 6, 2002

- 1) The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with the application and any continuing, divisional or reissue applications for the invention, and any patent(s) issuing thereon, and also to execute separate assignments in connection with such applications and patents as the Assignee may deem necessary.
2) The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with any interference which may be declared concerning this application or continuation or division thereof, or any patent or reissue application based thereon, and to cooperate with the Assignee in every way possible in obtaining evidence and going forward with such interference.
3) The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers and documents and perform any act which may be necessary in connection with claims or provisions of the International Convention for Protection of Industrial Property or similar agreements.
4) The undersigned agree(s) to perform all affirmative acts which may be necessary to obtain, maintain or confirm by reissue or reexamination a grant of a valid United States Patent to the Assignee.
5) The undersigned hereby authorize(s) and request(s) the Director of Patents to issue any and all Letters Patents of the United States resulting from said application or any divisional, continuing or reissue applications to the said Assignee, as Assignee of the entire interest, and hereby covenants that he has (they have) full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that he has (they have) not executed, and will not execute, any agreements in conflict herewith.
6) The undersigned hereby grant(s) the firm of OLIPP & BERRIDGE the power to insert on this assignment any further identification which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document.

In witness whereof, executed by the undersigned on the date(s) opposite the undersigned name(s).

Date August 6, 2002 Name of Inventor Akihisa Nishioka (SEAL)
Date Name of Inventor (SEAL)
Date Name of Inventor (SEAL)
Date Name of Inventor (SEAL)

This assignment should preferably be signed before: (a) a Notary Public if within the U.S.A.

(b) a U.S. Consul if outside the U.S.A. If neither, then it should be signed before at least two witnesses who also sign here:

Date Witness
Date Witness