

08-30-2002



Practitioner's Docket No. 1576.103

102206708

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Box Assignments  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

8/27/02

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
FINANCIAL

ASSIGNMENT (DOCUMENT) COVER SHEET (37 C.F.R. § 3.31)

Attached please find an assignment (document) for recordal.

IDENTIFICATION OF APPLICATION(S) AND/OR PATENT(S)  
FOR ASSIGNMENT (DOCUMENT) RECORDAL  
(37 C.F.R. § 3.21 and 37 C.F.R. § 3.31(a)(4))

1. This assignment is for the following patent application and/or issued patent:

a. National application: SN: 10/203,339, filed on August 7, 2002

TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS AND/OR PATENTS  
AND TOTAL FEE

2. A. The total number of applications and/or patents identified in this cover sheet is: 1.

B. The total fee is (37 C.F.R. Section 1.21(h)):

1 x \$40.00 = \$40.00

C. Payment of fee is made by:

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10\*

(When using Express Mail, the Express Mail label number is mandatory;  
Express Mail certification is optional.)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

MAILING

deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231  
37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a) 37 C.F.R. § 1.10\*

with sufficient postage as first class mail.  as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label No. \_\_\_\_\_ (mandatory)

TRANSMISSION

facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, (703) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Date: Aug. 20, 2002

Lia H. Costello  
Lia H. Costello, Legal Assistant

\* Only the date of filing (' 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under ' 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See ' 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (' 1.10) or facsimile transmission (' 1.5(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

08/30/2002 TDIAZ1 00000045 131992 10203339  
01 FC:581 40.00 CH

Authorization is hereby made to charge the amount of \$40.00 to Deposit Account No. 13-1992.

Charge any additional fees required by this paper or credit any overpayment in the manner authorized above.

A duplicate of this paper is attached.

**NAME OF PARTY CONVEYING INTEREST  
(37 C.F.R. § 3.31(a)(1))**

3. The party conveying interest is:

Shinji ABE et al.

**NAME AND ADDRESS OF PARTY(IES) RECEIVING INTEREST  
(37 C.F.R. § (a)(2))**

4. The rights are being conveyed to:

Nippon Soda Co., Ltd.  
2-1, Ohtemachi 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo , 100-0004 JAPAN

**DESCRIPTION OF INTEREST CONVEYED OR  
TRANSACTION RECORDED (37 C.F.R. § 3.31(a)(3))**

5. The accompanying document intends to accomplish an assignment.

**NAME AND ADDRESS OF PARTY TO WHOM  
CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE MAILED (37 C.F.R. § 3.31 (a)(5))**

6. Please address correspondence to:

Name: Dennis G. LaPointe  
Address: Mason & Associates, P.A.  
17757 US Hwy. 19 North, Suite 500  
Clearwater, FL 33764  
US  
Telephone No.: 727-538-3800

**DATE ASSIGNMENT (DOCUMENT) EXECUTED  
(37 C.F.R. § 3.31(a)(7))**

Assignment (Document) Cover Sheet--page 2 of 3

**PATENT  
REEL: 013227 FRAME: 0820**

7. The attached assignment (document) was executed on August 15, 2002.

**LANGUAGE OF ASSIGNMENT (DOCUMENT) TO BE RECORDED**

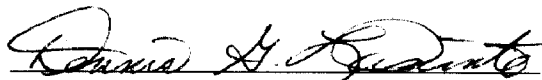
8. The attached document is in the English language.

**ORIGINAL DOCUMENT OR TRUE COPY SUBMITTED**

9. Submitted herewith is the original document.

**STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 3.31(a)(9)) AND  
SIGNATURE (37 C.F.R. § 3.31(a)(10))**

10. 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.



Dennis G. LaPointe  
Mason & Associates, P.A.  
17757 US Hwy. 19 North, Suite 500  
Clearwater, FL 33764  
US

**TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES BEING SUBMITTED**

11. The total number of pages being submitted, including documents are: 6.

For:  U.S. and/or  Foreign Rights  
 For:  U.S. Application or  
        U.S. Provisional Application  
 For:  U.S. Patent  
 For:  PCT Application  
 By: Multiple Inventors

**ASSIGNMENT OF INVENTION (MULTIPLE INVENTORS)**

In consideration of the payment by ASSIGNEE to ASSIGNOR of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and for other good and valuable consideration,

**ASSIGNORS (Inventors):**

Shinji ABE  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
*(type or print name of inventors)*  
Hiroshi SUZUKI  
 \_\_\_\_\_

2160-1-101, Goi, Ichihara-shi, Chiba  
290-0056, Japan  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address 16-14, Yumemino 1-chome, Nationality  
Matsubushi-cho, Kitakatsushika-gun,  
Saitama 343-0113, Japan  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Nobutaka AIMONO  
 \_\_\_\_\_

7-17, Shinmei 2-chome, Soka-shi, Saitama  
340-0012 Japan  
 \_\_\_\_\_

hereby sells, assigns and transfers to  
ASSIGNEE:

NIPPON SODA CO., LTD.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
*(type or print name of ASSIGNEE)*  
JAPAN  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nationality

2-1, Ohtemachi 20chome, Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo, 100-0004 JAPAN  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address

(Assignment of Invention--Multiple Inventors--page 1 of 3)

and the successors, assigns and legal representatives of the ASSIGNEE

(complete one of the following)

- the entire right, title and interest  
 an undivided \_\_\_\_\_ percent ( \_\_\_\_\_ %) interest  
for the United States and its territorial possessions

(check the following box, if foreign rights are also to be assigned)

- and in all foreign countries, including all rights to claim priority,  
in and to any and all improvements which are disclosed in the invention entitled:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of inventor(s) \_\_\_\_\_

(check and complete (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) or (g))

and which is found in (37 C.F.R. section 3.21)

- (a)  U.S. patent application executed on even date herewith  
(b)  U.S. patent application executed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(c)  U.S. provisional application naming the above inventor(s) for the above-entitled invention.  
 Express mail label no.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_

- To comply with 37 C.F.R. section 3.21 for recordal of this assignment, I, an ASSIGNOR signing below, hereby authorize and request my attorney to insert below the filing date and application number when they become known.

- (d)  U.S. application no. 10/203,339  
filed on 07 August 2002

- (e)  International application no. PCT/ \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

- (f)  U.S. patent no. \_\_\_\_\_ issued \_\_\_\_\_

- A change of address to which correspondence is to be sent regarding patent maintenance fees is being sent separately.

(also check (g), if foreign application(s) is also being assigned)

- (g)  and any legal equivalent thereof in a foreign country, including the right to claim priority

and, in and to, all Letters Patent to be obtained for said invention by the above application or any continuation, division, renewal, or substitute thereof, and as to letters patent any reissue or re-examination thereof.

ASSIGNOR hereby covenants that no assignment, sale, agreement or encumbrance has been or will be made or entered into which would conflict with this assignment.

(Assignment of Invention—Multiple Inventors—page 2 of 3)

ASSIGNOR further covenants that ASSIGNEE will, upon its request, be provided promptly with all pertinent facts and documents relating to said invention and said Letters Patent and legal equivalents as may be known and accessible to ASSIGNOR and will testify as to the same in any interference, litigation or proceeding related thereto and will promptly execute and deliver to ASSIGNEE or its legal representatives any and all papers, instruments or affidavits required to apply for, obtain, maintain, issue and enforce said application, said invention and said Letters Patent and said equivalents thereof which may be necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have hereunto set hand and seal this 15 August 2002  
Date of signing

*WARNING: The date of signing must be the same as the date of execution of the application, if item (a) was checked above.*

Shinji ABE  
(type name of Inventor)

*Shinji ABE*  
Signature of INVENTOR

Hiroshi SUZUKI

*Hiroshi Suzuki*

Nobutaka AIMONO

*Nobutaka Aimono*

Notarization or Legalization Page Added.

*NOTE: No witnessing, notarization or legalization is necessary. If the assignment is notarized or legalized then it will only be prima facie evidence of execution. 35 U.S.C. section 261. Use next page if notarization is desired.*

(Assignment of Invention--Multiple Inventors--page 3 of 3)