



09-11-2002



102217566

Docket No.: 01640270AA

ET

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

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To the Honorable Commissioner of Pat.

3 attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Zhangjing Chen
Fred M. Lamb

9.5.02

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

Name: Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Internal Address:

Street Address:

City: Blacksburg State: VA ZIP: 24060

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

Nature of conveyance:

☒ Assignment

☐ Merger

☐ Security Agreement

☐ Change of Name

☐ Other

Execution Date: 08/15/02, 08/16/02

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)

B. Patent No.(s)

10/184,073

filed 06/28/02

Additional numbers attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

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

Name: Michael E. Whitham

Internal Address:

09/10/2002 TDI/AZ1 00000110 10184073

01 FC:581

40.00 OP

Street Address: Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson, P.C.

11491 Sunset Hills Road - Suite 340

City: Reston

State: VA ZIP: 20190

6. Total number of applications and patents involved:

1

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

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

☐ Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number:

50-2041

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.

Michael E. Whitham

Name of Person Signing

Signature

September 5, 2002

Date

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

3

PATENT

REEL: 013265 FRAME: 0685

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ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, Zhangjing Chen, of Blacksburg, Virginia, and Fred M. Lamb, of Christiansburg, Virginia, (hereinafter referred to as **ASSIGNORS**), have invented certain new and useful improvements in an invention entitled:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR VACUUM DRYING WOOD IN A COLLAPSIBLE CONTAINER IN A HEATED BATH

for which an application for United States Letters Patent was filed on June 28, 2002 as Application Serial Number 10/184,073; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, (hereinafter referred to as **ASSIGNEE**), an institute of higher education organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, having an office and principal place of business at Blacksburg, Virginia, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in, to and under said application and said invention and in, to and under Letters Patent or similar legal protection to be obtained therefor in the United States and in any and all foreign countries.

NOW, THEREFORE, TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Be it known that in consideration of the payment by **ASSIGNEE** to **ASSIGNORS** of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and for other good and valuable consideration, **ASSIGNORS** hereby sell, assign and transfer to **ASSIGNEE**, its lawful successors and assigns, the full and exclusive right, title and interest to said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions and in all foreign countries and to all Letters Patent or similar legal protection in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries to be obtained for said invention by said application or any continuation, division, continuation-in-part, reexamination, renewal, substitute, extension or reissue thereof or any legal equivalent thereof in a foreign country for the full term or terms for which the same may be granted; and authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents of the United States and any official of any foreign country whose duty it is to issue patents or legal equivalents thereto, to issue same for this invention to **ASSIGNEE**, its lawful successors and assigns.

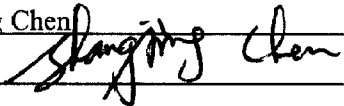
ASSIGNORS hereby covenant that no assignment, sale, agreement or encumbrance has been or will be made or entered into which would conflict with this assignment and sale.

ASSIGNORS further covenant that **ASSIGNEE** will, upon its request, be provided promptly with all pertinent facts and documents relating to said application, said invention and said Letters Patent and legal equivalents in foreign countries as may be known and accessible to **ASSIGNORS** and will testify as to the same in any interference or litigation related thereto and will promptly execute and deliver to **ASSIGNEE** or its legal representative 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 in any foreign country which may be necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes thereof.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of Sole

or First Inventor: Zhangjing Chen

Inventor's Signature 

Date: Aug. 15, 2002

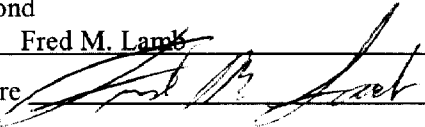
Residence: 801 South Main Street, Apt. 7, Blacksburg, VA 24060

Citizenship: China

Post Office Address: Same as Above

Full Name of Second

Joint Inventor: Fred M. Lamb

Inventor's Signature 

Date: 8-16-02

Residence: 325 Tomahawk Drive, Christiansburg, VA 24073

Citizenship: US

Post Office Address: Same as Above

*Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56:

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith toward the Patent and Trademark Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and (1) it establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability; or (2) it refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in: (i) opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or (ii) asserting an argument of patentability.