

PATENT ASSIGNMENT

SUBMISSION TYPE: NEW ASSIGNMENT

NATURE OF CONVEYANCE: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNOR'S INTEREST

CONVEYING PARTY DATA

Name: GAUR, SANTOSH PRASAD

Execution Date: 11/21/2001

Name: HALL, WILLIAM ERIC

Execution Date: 11/11/2001

RECEIVING PARTY DATA

Name: INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION

Street Address: New Orchard Road

Internal Address:

City: Armonk

State: NEW YORK

Country:

Postal Code: 10504

PROPERTY NUMBERS

Application Number: 10065819

Number of Properties: 1

The USPTO, Office of Public Records, will send correspondence via facsimile to **FAX NUMBER:** 9192542687

CORRESPONDENCE DATA:

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CUSTOMER NUMBER: 025299

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING: SCOTT W. REID

DATE SIGNED: 01/22/2003

Total Attachments: 2

ASSIGNMENT

Whereas, I/ we,

(1) **SANTOSH PRASAD GAUR**
County of Wake

City of Raleigh
State of North Carolina

(2) **WILLIAM ERIC HALL**
County of Middlesex

City of Clinton
State of Connecticut

have invented certain improvements in

Title: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR OPTIMIZING DATA SEARCHES IN TREE STRUCTURES**

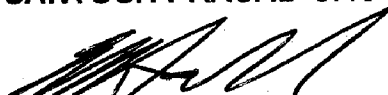
and executed a United States patent application therefor on the following date(s):

(1) _____ (2) November, 11, 2002.

Whereas, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION, a corporation of New York, having a place of business at Armonk, New York 10504, (hereinafter called IBM), desires to acquire the entire right, title and interest in the application and invention, and to any United States and foreign patents to be obtained therefor;

Now therefore, for a valuable consideration, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, I/we, the above named, hereby acknowledge my/our prior existing obligation and hereby sell, assign, and transfer to IBM, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in the application and invention therein disclosed for the United States and foreign countries, and all rights of priority resulting from the filing of the United States application, and I/we request the Commissioner of Patents to issue any Letters Patent granted upon the invention set forth in the application to IBM, its successors and assigns; and I/we hereby agree that IBM may apply for foreign Letters Patent on the invention and I/we will execute all papers necessary in connection with the United States and foreign applications when called upon to do so by IBM.

Signed and sealed:

<u>CITY/STATE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
_____	_____	_____
<u>Hawthorne, NY</u>	<u>11/11/02</u>	<u>SANTOSH PRASAD GAUR</u>  <u>WILLIAM ERIC HALL</u>

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Now therefore, for a valuable consideration, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, I/we, the above named, hereby acknowledge my/our prior existing obligation and hereby sell, assign, and transfer to IBM, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in the application and invention therein disclosed for the United States and foreign countries, and all rights of priority resulting from the filing of the United States application, and I/we request the Commissioner of Patents to issue any Letters Patent granted upon the invention set forth in the application to IBM, its successors and assigns; and I/we hereby agree that IBM may apply for foreign Letters Patent on the invention and I/we will execute all papers necessary in connection with the United States and foreign applications when called upon to do so by IBM.

Signed and sealed:

CITY/STATE

DATE

SIGNATURE

RTP / NC

NOV. 21, 2002

Santosh Prasad Gaur
SANTOSH PRASAD GAUR

WILLIAM ERIC HALL