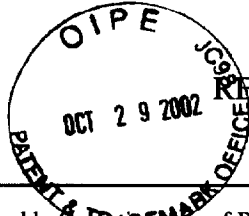


11-06-2002



FORM PTO-1595
(Rev. 6/92)



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

Attorney's Docket No. 012300-041

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies): 10-29-02
 Nobuaki Takahashi, Akio Yamamoto, Tomoaki Ikeda
 and Tetsuya Fukuba

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

3. Nature of conveyance:
 Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name

Other: _____

Execution Date: September 13, 2002 (for all)

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):
 Name: Sumitomo Metal Industries, Ltd.
 Address: 5-33, Kitahama 4-chome
Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi
Osaka 541-0041 JAPAN

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

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):
 If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: _____

A. Patent Application No.(s)
10/247,373

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:
 Name: Platon N. Mandros
 Address: BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.
P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: ONE

7. Total fee (37 CFR § 3.41): \$ 40.00
 Enclosed
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8. Deposit account number:
02-4800

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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.

Peter K. Skiff
 Name of Person Signing

Peter K Skiff
 Signature

October 29, 2002
 Date

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

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:

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Box Assignments
Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENT
REEL: 013449 FRAME: 0927

ASSIGNMENT

In consideration of the premises and other good and valuable consideration paid, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned,

(1) Nobuaki TAKAHASHI
(2) Akio YAMAMOTO

(3) Tomoaki IKEDA
(4) Tetsuya FUKUBA

who have made a certain new and useful invention, hereby sell, assign, and transfer unto

SUMITOMO METAL INDUSTRIES, LTD., 5-33, Kitahama 4-chome, Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 541-0041, Japan

its successors and assigns (hereinafter designated "ASSIGNEE") the entire right, title and interest for the United States of America as defined in 35 U.S.C.100 in the invention entitled

METHOD OF PRODUCING STEEL PIPES, AND WELDED PIPES

(a) for which an application for United States Letters Patent was filed on _____ and identified by United States Serial No. _____; or

(b) for which an application for United States Letters Patent was executed on _____

and the undersigned hereby authorize and request the United States Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any and all United States Letters Patent which may be granted therefor and any and all extensions, divisions, reissues, substitutes, renewals, continuations, or continuations-in-part thereof, and the right to all benefits under the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property to the said ASSIGNEE, for its interest as ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns and legal representatives; the undersigned agree that the attorneys of record in said application shall hereafter act on behalf of said ASSIGNEE;

AND the undersigned hereby agree to transfer a like interest, and to render all necessary assistance in making application for and obtaining original, divisional, substitute, renewed, continuation, continuation-in-part, reissued or extended Letters Patent of the United States, upon request of the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, and without further remuneration, in and to any improvements, and applications for patent based thereon, growing out of or related to the said invention; and to execute any papers by the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, deemed essential to ASSIGNEE's full protection and title in and to the invention hereby transferred.

I (We) hereby grant the following law firm 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 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document;

Burns, Doane, Swecker & Mathis, L.L.P.

SIGNED on the date(s) indicated aside my(our) signature(s):

INVENTORS

DATE SIGNED

1) *N. Takahashi*
Name: Nobuaki TAKAHASHI

02/09/13

2) *A. Yamamoto*
Name: Akio YAMAMOTO

02/09/13

3) *T. Ikeda*
Name: Tomoaki IKEDA

02/09/13

4) *T. Fukuba*
Name: Tetsuya FUKUBA

02/09/13

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