

11-20-2002

ET



102288190

Tab settings

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents

Record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):
Nestle Purina PetCare Company, f//k/a/ Ralston Purina Company

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

Name: **NPPC Services, Inc.**

Address: **Checkerboard Square**

11-18-02

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

- Assignment Merger
- Security Agreement Change of Name
- Other

City: **St. Louis** State/Prov.: **MO**

Country: _____ ZIP: **63164**

Execution Date: **June 28, 2002**

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

4. Application number(s) or patent numbers(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: _____

Patent Application No. _____ Filing date _____

B. Patent No.(s)

6,376,252
6,444,169

Additional numbers Yes No

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

Name: **Jill T. Powlick**

Registration No. **42,088**

Address: **Barnes & Thornburg**

11 South Meridian Street

City: **Indianapolis** State/Prov.: **IN**

Country: _____ ZIP: **46204**

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: **2**

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41):.....\$ **80.00**

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

8. Deposit account number:

10-0435

(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

11/19/2002 DBYRNE 00000199 6376252

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

Signature and signature.

80.00 OP

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.

Jill T. Powlick

November 13, 2002

Name of Person Signing

Signature

3 Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, Nestlé Purina PetCare Company, formerly known as Ralston Purina Company, a Missouri corporation, with its principal office located at Checkerboard Square, St. Louis, Missouri 63164 (hereinafter "Assignor") desires to convey certain Intellectual Property to NPPC Services, Inc., a Delaware corporation (hereinafter "Assignee"); and

WHEREAS, Assignee desires to acquire such Intellectual Property from Assignor.

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

Assignor hereby contributes, transfers, conveys and assigns to Assignee all of its right, title and interest in the patents and patent applications listed on the attached Schedule A, including the right to sue for past infringement and collect for past damages and all continuations, divisions or reissues, and Assignor does hereby authorize and request the U.S. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks and any other governmental agency to issue, in accordance with this Assignment, any and all Letters Patent that may be granted on said application.

This Assignment is effective June 28, 2002.

NESTLÉ PURINA PETCARE COMPANY

By: W. P. McGinnis
W. P. McGinnis, CEO & President

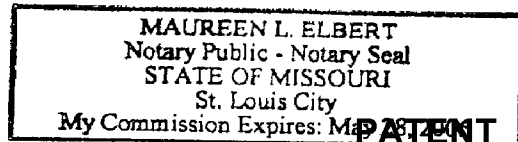
STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss
CITY OF ST. LOUIS)

On this 24th day of October 2002, before me appeared W. P. MCGINNIS, to me personally known, who, being by me duly sworn did say that he is the CEO & President of NESTLÉ PURINA PETCARE COMPANY, a corporation of the State of Missouri, and that said instrument was signed on behalf of said corporation by authority of its Board of Directors, and said W. P. MCGINNIS acknowledged said instrument to be the free act and deed of said corporation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal the day and year last above written.

Maureen L. Elbert
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:



SCHEDULE A

Our Matter Number.	Nestec Ltd. Ref. Number	Application Number Patent Number	Application Date Issued Date
30298-67219	SP-1223 NO7291/US	09/377,647 6,376,252	19-Aug-1999 23-Apr. 2002
30298-67695	SP-1232 NO7291/US	09,883,874 6,444,169	18-Jun-2001 03-Sep-2002

INDS02 JTP 546229v1