

ASSIGNMENT

11-26-2002

COVER SHEET Patents Only



102294464

ct. No.: 30676/249996

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Please record the attached original documents and copies.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

James B. Quantz  
Pascal W. Pitts  
John L. Feaster

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

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

Machine Design Incorporated  
2413 Leaphart Road  
West Columbia, South Carolina 29169

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

Assignment  
 Merger  
 Security Agreement  
 Change of Name  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Execution Date: November 8, 2002

4. Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: November 8, 2002

Additional numbers attached? Yes  No

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

**ALSTON & BIRD LLP**  
Bank of America Plaza  
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000  
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000

6. Total number of applications and patents involved:

1

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

Enclosed  
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number: 16-0605

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

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.*

Charles B. Elderkin  
Name of Person Signing: Charles B. Elderkin  
Reg. No. 24,357

Nov. 19, 2002  
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 4

J1050 U. S. PTO  
10/299221  
11/19/02

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11/25/2002 LMUELLER 00000177 10299221

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PATENT  
REEL: 013513 FRAME: 0161

## ASSIGNMENT

THIS ASSIGNMENT, made by us, James B. Quantz, citizen of the United States of America, residing at Lexington, South Carolina; Pascal W. Pitts, citizen of the United States of America, residing at Cayce, South Carolina; and John L. Feaster, citizen of the United States of America, residing at Columbia, South Carolina; respectively;

WITNESSETH: That,

WHEREAS, we are the joint inventors of certain new and useful improvements in HIGH PRODUCTION NUTCRACKING APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING RELATIVELY SMALL NUTS for which an application for United States Letters Patent has been executed by us concurrently herewith, and

WHEREAS, Machine Design Incorporated, a South Carolina corporation having a principal place of business at 2413 Leaphart Road, West Columbia, South Carolina 29169, hereinafter referred to as assignee, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title, and interest in and to said invention as described in said application, and in and to any and all Letters Patent which shall be granted therefor in the United States of America and all foreign countries;

NOW, THEREFORE, To Whom It May Concern, be it known that for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, we have sold and by these presents do hereby sell, assign, transfer, and convey unto the said assignee, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title, and interest in and to the said invention and application, and in and to any and all continuations, continuations-in-part, or divisions thereof, and in and to any and all Letters Patent of the United States of America and all foreign countries or reissues, reexaminations, or extensions thereof which may be granted therefor or thereon, for the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted, together with the right to claim the priority of said application in all foreign countries in accordance with the International Convention, the same to be held and enjoyed by said assignee, its successors and assigns, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by me if

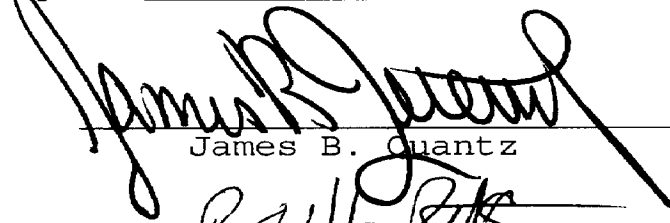
this assignment and sale had not been made.

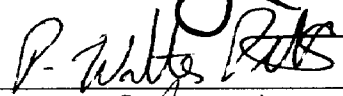
We hereby request that said Letters Patent be issued in accordance with this assignment.

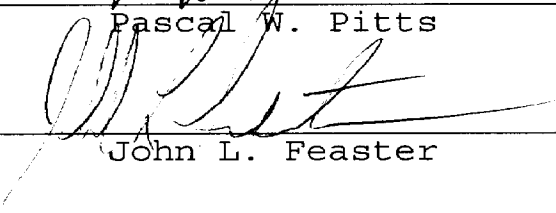
We further covenant and agree that, at the time of the execution and delivery of these presents, we possess full title to the invention and application above-mentioned, and that we have the unencumbered right and authority to make this assignment.

We further covenant, and agree to bind our heirs, legal representatives, and assigns, promptly to communicate to said assignee or its representatives any facts known to us relating to said invention, to testify in any interference or legal proceedings involving said invention, to execute any additional papers which may be requested to confirm the right of the assignee, its representatives, successors, or assigns to secure patent or similar protection for the said invention in all countries and to vest in the assignee complete title to the said invention and Letters Patent, without further compensation, but at the expense of said assignee, its successors, assigns, and other legal representatives.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and seals on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2002.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James B. Quantz (SEAL)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pascal W. Pitts (SEAL)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John L. Feaster (SEAL)

STATE OF South Carolina )  
COUNTY OF Lexington )

I, Sharon M. Frick, a Notary Public for said County and State, do hereby certify that James B. Quantz personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal, this the 8th day of November, 2002.

(Official Seal)

Sharon M. Frick  
Notary Public

My commission expires: My Commission Expires October 4, 2009

STATE OF South Carolina )  
COUNTY OF Lexington )

I, Sharon M. Frick, a Notary Public for said County and State, do hereby certify that Pascal W. Pitts personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal, this the 8th day of November, 2002.

(Official Seal)

Sharon M. Frick  
Notary Public

My commission expires: My Commission Expires October 4, 2009

STATE OF South Carolina )  
COUNTY OF Lexington )

I, Sharon M. Frick, a Notary Public for said County and State, do hereby certify that John L. Feaster personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal, this the 8th day of November, 2002.

(Official Seal)

Sharon M. Frick  
Notary Public

My commission expires: My Commission Expires October 4, 2009

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