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3/19/03

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Tab settings



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Melaney Northrop
Staci A. Mininger

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

- Assignment Merger
- Security Agreement Change of Name
- Other _____

Execution Date: 3/4/03 3/10/03

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: Doskocil Manufacturing Company, Inc.

Internal Address: _____

Street Address: 4209 Barnett

City: Arlington State: TX Zip: 76017

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)

B. Patent No.(s)

29176397

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

Name: Roy W. Hardin

Internal Address: Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP

Street Address: 2200 Ross Ave., Ste. 2200

City: Dallas State: TX Zip: 75201

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:

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

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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.

Michael W. Dubner
Name of Person Signing

Michael W. Dubner
Signature

3/17/03
Date

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

03/19/2003 6TON11 00000110 29176397
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Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:
Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments
Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENT
REEL: 013848 FRAME: 0168

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, we, Melaney Northrop, and Staci A. Mininger, citizens of the United States of America, and residents of Cleburne, Texas, Dallas, Texas, respectively, have invented certain new and useful improvements in

CAT LITTER BOX

for which an application for United States Letters Patent was filed on February 21, 2003, and assigned Application Serial No. 29/176,397; and

WHEREAS, Dorskocil Manufacturing Company, Inc., a corporation of the State of Texas, which has a business address of 4209 Barnett, Arlington, Texas 76017 (hereinafter referred to as "Assignee"), is desirous of acquiring our entire right, title and interest in and to the invention, and in and to said application and any Letters Patent that may issue thereon;

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, we do hereby sell, assign and transfer unto said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives the full and exclusive right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to said application and all patents which may be granted therefor, and all divisions, reissues, substitutions, continuations, continuations-in-part and extensions thereof; and we hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue all patents for said invention, or patents resulting therefrom, insofar as my interests are concerned, to said Assignee of my entire right, title and interest.

We also hereby sell and assign to said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives the full and exclusive right, title and interest to the invention disclosed in said application throughout the world, including the right to file applications and obtain patents, utility models, industrial models and designs for said invention in its own name throughout the world including all rights of priority, all rights to publish cautionary notices reserving ownership of said invention and all rights to register said invention in appropriate registries; and we further agree to execute any and all powers of attorney, applications, assignments, declarations, affidavits, and any other papers in connection therewith necessary to perfect such right, title and interest in Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives.

We hereby further agree that we will communicate to said Assignee, or to its successors, assigns and legal representatives, any facts known to me respecting any improvements, and, at the expense of said Assignee, to testify in any legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuation, continuation-in-part, reissue and substitute applications, make all lawful oaths, and generally do everything possible to vest title in said Assignee and to aid said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives to obtain and enforce proper protection for said invention in all countries.

Name of First Inventor:

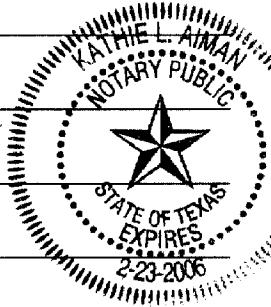
Inventor's Name: Melaney Northrop

Residence (City, State): Cleburne, Texas

Signature: *Melaney Northrop*

Date: 3-10-03

Date Application Executed: 3-10-03



SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME
THIS 10th DAY OF March, 2003
Kathie L. Aiman
NOTARY PUBLIC

Name of Second Inventor:

Inventor's Name: Staci Mininger

Residence (City, State): Dallas, Texas

Signature: *Staci Mininger*

Date: 3-4-03

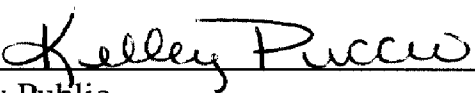
Date Application Executed: 3-4-03

NOTARIZATION OR LEGALIZATION ACCOMPANYING ASSIGNMENT

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF DALLAS

Before me this 4th day of March 2003, personally appeared Staci Mininger, known to be the person who is described in, and who executed the foregoing assignment instrument and acknowledged to me that they executed the same of their own free will for the purpose therein expressed.



Notary Public

