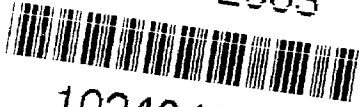


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J.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

OMB No. 0651-0027 (exp. 6/30/2005)

Tab settings

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies): Thomas P. Hennessy and Kimberly M. Smoak

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

3. Nature of conveyance: [X] Assignment [] Merger [] Security Agreement [] Change of Name [] Other

Street Address: Alcoa Corporate Center, 201 Isabella Street City: Pittsburgh State: PA Zip: 15212-5858

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s): A. Patent Application No.(s) 29/173,165, filed December 23, 2002

B. Patent No.(s)

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed: Name: David W. Pearce-Smith Intellectual Property Law Division Alcoa Inc. Alcoa Technical Center Street Address: 100 Technical Drive City: Alcoa Center State: PA Zip: 15069-0001

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1 7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) \$ 40 [X] Enclosed [] Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number: 01-1000

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

9. Signature. Michelle L. English Name of Person Signing Signature Date March 24, 2003

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

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to: Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENT REEL: 013890 FRAME: 0879

ASSIGNMENT

In consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00), and other good, and valuable considerations, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and intending to be legally bound hereby, we, **Thomas P. Hennessy and Kimberly M. Smoak**, of Valrico, in the County of Hillsborough and State of Florida, and of Melrose, in the County of Clay and State of Florida, respectively

Hereby sell, assign and transfer to Alcoa Inc., a corporation of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, having a place of business at Pittsburgh, in the County of Allegheny, and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, its successors, assigns, and legal representatives, our entire right, title and interest, for all countries, in and to any and all improvements which are disclosed and claimed, and any and all improvements which are disclosed but not claimed, in the application for United States Patent, **Serial No. 29/173,165, Filed December 23, 2002** entitled "**Steps**" (Atty. Docket No. 02-3702) and in and to said application and all divisional, continuing, substitute, renewal, reissue, and all other applications for Letters Patent which have been or shall be filed on any of said improvements disclosed in said application; and in and to all original and reissued patents which have been or shall be issued on said improvements;

Authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue to said Assignee, Alcoa Inc., its successors, assigns and legal representatives, in accordance with this assignment, any and all United States Letters Patent on said improvements, or any of them disclosed in said application;

Agree that, when requested, without charge to but at the expense of said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, to carry out in good faith the intent and purpose of this assignment, we will, for all countries execute all divisional, continuing, substitute, renewal, reissue, and all other patent applications on any and all said improvements; execute all rightful oaths and other papers; communicate to said Assignee, its successors, assigns, and representatives, all facts known to us relating to said improvements and the history thereof; testify in all legal proceedings; and generally do everything possible which said Assignee, its successors, assigns or representatives shall consider desirable for aiding in securing, maintaining and enforcing proper patent protection for said improvements, and for vesting title to said improvements and all applications for patents and all patents on said improvements, in said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives.

Covenant with said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives that we have made to others no assignment, grant, mortgage, license or other agreement affecting the rights and property herein conveyed, and that we have full right to convey the same as herein expressed.

Thomas P. Hennessy 3/14/03
Thomas P. Hennessy

Kimberly M. Smoak

State of Florida)
) SS.
County of Hillsborough)



Before me this 14th day of March 2003 personally appeared **Thomas P. Hennessy**, to me personally known to be the person who is described in and who executed the above instrument, and he acknowledged to me that he executed the same of his own free will for the purposes therein set forth.

Laurel J. Creazzo
Notary Public

State of Florida)
) SS.
County of Clay)

Before me this _____ day of March 2003 personally appeared **Kimberly M. Smoak**, to me personally known to be the person who is described in and who executed the above instrument, and she acknowledged to me that she executed the same of her own free will for the purposes therein set forth.

Notary Public

Covenant with said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives that we have made to others no assignment, grant, mortgage, license or other agreement affecting the rights and property herein conveyed, and that we have full right to convey the same as herein expressed.

Thomas P. Hennessy

Kimberly M. Smoak

Kimberly M. Smoak

State of Florida)
) SS.
County of Hillsborough)

Before me this _____ day of March 2003 personally appeared **Thomas P. Hennessy**, to me personally known to be the person who is described in and who executed the above instrument, and he acknowledged to me that he executed the same of his own free will for the purposes therein set forth.

Notary Public

State of Florida)
) SS.
County of Clay)

Before me this 20th day of March 2003 personally appeared **Kimberly M. Smoak**, to me personally known to be the person who is described in and who executed the above instrument, and she acknowledged to me that she executed the same of her own free will for the purposes therein set forth.

Laura W. Richardson

Notary Public



Laura W. Richardson
MY COMMISSION # CC973440 EXPIRES
October 8, 2004
BONDED THRU TROY FAIN INSURANCE, INC.