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

OMB No. 0651-0027 (exp. 5/31/2002)

102413856

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):

William L. Hergenrother
Chenchy Jeffrey Lin

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: Bridgestone Corporation

Internal Address:

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

- Assignment Merger
- Security Agreement Change of Name
- Other

Street Address: 10-1, Kyobashi 1-Chome
Chuo,ku

City: Tokyo 104 Japan State: Zip:

Execution Date: 3/12/2003

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) 09/571,693

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

Name: Jacqueline M. O'Brien

Internal Address: Jones Day

North Point

Street Address: 901 Lakeside Avenue

City: Cleveland State: OH Zip: 44114

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:

50-1432 Ref. 295620214036, if over or underpayment

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

9. Signature.

Jacqueline M. O'Brien (216) 586-1309
Name of Person Signing

Jacqueline M. O'Brien
Signature

4/1/2003
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: 5

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

04/09/2003 ECOOPER 00000039 09571693

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PATENT
REEL: 013924 FRAME: 0691

ASSIGNMENT

(Joint)

We, William L. Hergenrother and Chenchy Jeffrey Lin, have made an invention which now is described and claimed in an application for patent entitled

**IMPROVED PROCESSABILITY OF SILICA-REINFORCED RUBBER
CONTAINING AN AMIDE COMPOUND**

which application was filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on May 15, 2000 and is designated as U.S. patent application number 09/571,693 (further identified as Jones Day Docket No. 295620214036).

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the obligations imposed by or arising under one or more of our employment agreement(s), advisor agreement(s), state or national statutes, common law, and administrative regulation, we hereby do make the following assignments --

To **BRIDGESTONE CORPORATION**, a corporation created and duly organized under the laws of the nation of Japan, and having a place of business at 10-1, Kyobashi 1-Chome, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104, Japan, and its successors and assigns, we hereby

assign, transfer, and set over the full and exclusive right to the above-described invention and to the above-described application for letters patent of the United States as well as any substitute, continuation, continuation-in-part, or divisional application filed thereon, to any application for letters patent of the United States that claims priority from the above-described application, and to any letters patent of the United States that issues from such application(s) as well as any reissue application or request for reexamination filed on such letters patent;

covenant and agree for ourselves and our legal representative(s) to

a) assist said assignee and/or its designee(s), to the extent requested, in the prosecution of said application for patent, in any interference declared on said application for patent or patent issuing therefrom, or in litigation which arises out of or is based on said application for patent or patent issuing therefrom, and

b) execute all papers related to said application for patent which said assignee or its designee(s) request to be signed,

provided that expenses relating thereto shall be borne by said assignee; and

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited today with the United States Postal Service in a sealed envelope in an envelope addressed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20541 on April 1, 2003

By: Sherry O'Brien **PATENT**

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authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any letters patent of the United States relating to the above-described invention in the name of said assignee.

To **BRIDGESTONE CORPORATION**, a corporation created and duly organized under the laws of the nation of Japan, and having a place of business at 10-1, Kyobashi 1-Chome, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104, Japan, and its successors and assigns, we hereby

assign, transfer, and set over the full and exclusive right to any application for letters patent filed in any regional or national patent office other than the United States Patent and Trademark Office which application claims priority from the above-described application;

covenant and agree for ourselves and our legal representative(s) to

a) assist said assignee and/or its designee(s), to the extent requested, in the prosecution of any such applications for patent or in litigation which arises out of or is based on said application(s) for patent or patent(s) issuing therefrom, and

b) execute all papers related to said application(s) for patent which said assignee or its designee(s) request to be signed,

provided that expenses relating thereto shall be borne by said assignee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this assignment has been executed below by the undersigned:

William L. Hergenrother
William L. Hergenrother

Date: March 12, 2003

Post Office Address: 195 Dorchester Road
Akron, Ohio 44313

STATE OF OHIO }
 } ss:
COUNTY OF SUMMIT }

The above named William L. Hergenrother, know to me, appeared before me this 12th day of March, 2003, and acknowledged that the foregoing instrument was executed as his free act and deed for the uses and purposes therein set forth.

Mildred L. Perain
Notary Public

(Notarial Seal)

MILDRED L. PERAIN, Notary Public
Franklin - Summit County
State of Ohio, Notary No. 0110
Commission Expires December 30, 2005

Chenchy Jeffrey Lin

Chenchy Jeffrey Lin

Date: 3 / 12 / 2003

Post Office Address: 4041 Longfellow Lane
Hudson, Ohio 44236

STATE OF OHIO }
 } ss:
COUNTY OF SUMMIT }

The above named Chenchy Jeffrey Lin, know to me, appeared before me this 12th day of March, 2003, and acknowledged that the foregoing instrument was executed as his free act and deed for the uses and purposes therein set forth.

Mildred L. Persing

Notary Public

(Notarial Seal)

MILDRED L. PERSING, Notary Public
Hudson - Summit County
500 White Jarvis Blvd., Ohio
By Commission Expires November 20, 2003