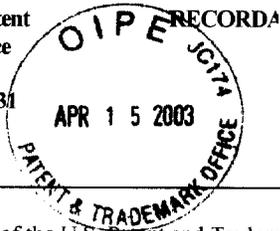


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04-18-2003



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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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To the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: Please record the attached original document or copy thereof.

1. A. Name of conveying party(ies):
Bando Chemical Industries, Ltd.

4.15.03

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

2. A. Name and address of receiving party(ies):
BROTHER KOGYO KABUSHIKI KAISHA
15-1, NAESHIRO-CHO, MIZUHO-KU,
NAGOYA-SHI, 467, JAPAN

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

3. A. Nature of conveyance:

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

B. Execution Date: _____

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

B. Patent Application No.(s) _____

C. Patent No.(s) 5,958,269

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

Name: James A. Oliff

Address: **OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, VA 22320

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

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

B. Enclosed (Check No. 141291)

8. Credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to deposit account number 15-0461.

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.

Date: April 15, 2003

James A. Oliff, Registration No. 27,075
Jesse Collier, Registration No. 53,839

04/17/2003 BYRNE 00000184 5958269 Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 3

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ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, Bando Chemical Industries, Ltd., a company established under the laws of Japan whose address is 2-15, Meiwa-Dori 3-chome, Hyogo-ku, Kobe-shi, 506, Japan, (hereinafter called "Assignor") is the co-owner by assignment duly recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at the Reel and Frame indicated below of the following United States Letters Patent (hereinafter called "Patent Properties"):

| <u>Application or Patent Number and Date of Filing or Issue</u> | <u>Named Inventors</u> | <u>Reel and Frame</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 5,958,269 issued September 28, 1999 | Makoto SUZUKI and Rikuzou KOUZUKI | 8810/0407 |

The undersigned has reviewed all the documents in the chain of title identified above; and to the best of the undersigned's knowledge and belief, title is in the Assignor. The undersigned is empowered to sign this Assignment on behalf of the Assignor.

WHEREAS, Brother Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha, a company established under the laws of Japan, whose address is 15-1, Naeshiro-cho, Mizuho-ku, Nagoya-shi, 467, Japan, (hereinafter called "Assignee") is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest for the United States, its territories, dependencies and possessions, in and to said Patent Properties (and/or patents that may be granted therefrom), and any confirmations, divisions, continuations, reexaminations, reissues or extensions of the same;

Now, To All Whom It May Concern: Be it known that for and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, Assignor has sold, assigned, transferred and set over, and does hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over, unto Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, the entire right, title and interest for the United States, its territories, dependencies and possessions, in and to said Patent Properties (and/or patents that may be granted therefrom), and any confirmations, divisions, continuations, reexaminations, reissues or extensions thereof; the same to be held and enjoyed by Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by Assignor had this assignment and sale not been made, together with all claims for damages by reason of past infringement of said Patent Properties with the right to sue for and collect the same for its own use and for the use of its successors, assigns and legal representatives.

Assignor agrees that this assignment is binding on Assignor and its heirs, successors, assigns and legal representatives.

Assignor authorizes and requests the Director of Patents and Trademarks of the United States to issue any Letters Patent of the United States, resulting from said Patent Properties and any confirmations, divisions, continuations, reexaminations, reissues or extensions thereof, to Assignee.

Assignor agrees to execute all papers necessary in connection with any interference which may be declared concerning said Patent Properties (and/or patents that may be granted therefrom), or any confirmation, division, continuation, reexamination or reissue thereof, and to cooperate with Assignee in every way possible in obtaining evidence and going forward with such interference.

Assignor covenants that it has full right to convey the interest herein assigned and that it has not executed and will not execute any agreement in conflict herewith.

Assignor agrees to execute all papers and documents and perform any act which may be necessary in connection with claims or provisions of the International Convention for Protection of Industrial Property or similar agreements.

Assignor agrees to perform all affirmative acts which may be necessary to obtain, maintain or confirm by reissue or reexamination a grant of a valid United States patent to Assignee.

Assignor grants the firm of OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC of Alexandria, Virginia the power to insert on this Assignment any further identification which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document.

This Assignment is effective as of the 15 day of MAR., 2003.

T. Baba

Witness

K. Yanagi

Witness

A. Ogura

Signature
Officer of Assignor

A. OGURA

Typewritten Name of Officer

PRESIDENT

Title of Officer