

04-24-2003

REC



T

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents

102429135

original documents or copy thereof.

4.71.03

1. Name of conveying party(ies):  
HC Inc.  
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?  Yes  No

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

Internal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: 414 East Third Street

City: Muscatine State: IA ZIP: 52761

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

3. Nature of conveyance:  
 Assignment  Merger  
 Security Agreement  Change of Name  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Execution Date: December 29, 1999

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).  
Des. 390,382 Des. 404,283  
Des. 403,902 5,142,996  
Des. 404,228 5,927,214

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

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

Name: Ronald A. Sandler

Internal Address: JONES DAY

Street Address: 77 West Wacker Drive

City: Chicago State: Illinois ZIP: 60601-1692

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 6

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) ..... \$ 240.00

Enclosed

Authorized to be charged to deposit account any fees in excess of amount enclosed which may be due herewith.

8. Deposit account number:

10-1202

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

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.

Merri C. Merrill  
Name of Person Signing

Signature

April 14, 2003  
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 6

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING: I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: The Honorable Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box: Assignments, Washington, D.C. 20231

DATE: April 14, 2003

Signature

Merri C. Merrill

# IOWA

No. W00225898  
Date: 12/30/1999

## SECRETARY OF STATE

490 DP-000230031  
THE HON COMPANY

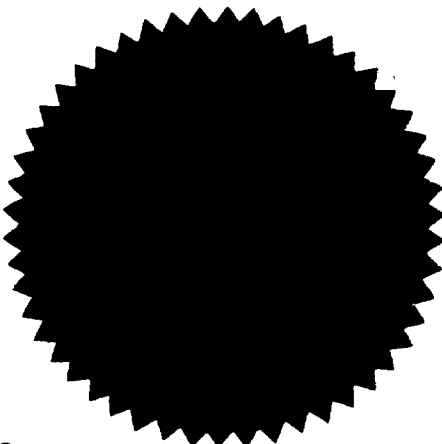
### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DOCUMENT FILED

The Secretary of State acknowledges receipt of the following document:

Articles of Merger

The document was filed on December 29, 1999, at 03:29 PM, to be effective as of January 2, 2000, at 12:01 AM.

The amount of \$50.00 was received in full payment of the filing fee.



Chester J. Culver

CHESTER J. CULVER SECRETARY OF STATE



Printed on  
Recycled Paper

230031-S

ARTICLES OF MERGER

OF

THE HON COMPANY  
(An Iowa Corporation)

and

AHC INC.  
(An Alabama Corporation)

To the Secretary of State of the State of Iowa and  
the Secretary of State of the State of Alabama:

Pursuant to Section 490.1107 of the Iowa Business Corporation Act and Section  
10-2B-11.07 of the Alabama Business Corporation Act, the undersigned domestic and foreign  
corporations adopt the following Articles of Merger:

1. The names of the corporations participating in the merger and the states under the  
laws of which they are respectively organized are as follows:

<u>Name of Corporation</u>	<u>State</u>
The HON Company ("HON")	Iowa
AHC Inc. ("AHC")	Alabama

2. The laws of the state of Iowa and the state of Alabama each permit such a merger.

3. The surviving corporation shall be HON and such corporation shall be governed  
under the laws of the State of Iowa.

4. The Plan of Merger is set forth in Exhibit A.

5. The following Plan of Merger was duly adopted and unanimously approved by the  
Board of Directors of HON in the manner and by the vote required by Iowa law on December 29,  
1999, and by the Board of Directors of AHC in the manner and by the vote required by Alabama  
law on December 29, 1999:

a. The parties to this Plan of Merger are AHC Inc. ("AHC"), a business  
corporation incorporated in the State of Alabama and The HON Company ("HON"), a  
business corporation incorporated in the State of Iowa.

b. At the Effective Time, AHC will be merged into HON, the  
separate existence of AHC will cease, and HON will continue as the surviving  
corporation.

c. The Effective Time will be as of January 2, 2000.

4

00212  
PATENT

517967 ME 8610 \$50.00 000

d. At the Effective Time:

(i) All outstanding shares of stock of AHC will be surrendered and canceled;

(ii) All assets of AHC will become the property of HON; and

(iii) HON will become responsible for all the liabilities and obligations of AHC.

e. The officers of HON and AHC shall do all acts and things which may be necessary or convenient to carry out the intent of this plan, including, without limitation, execute, seal, deliver, file, and perform all appropriate certificates, documents and instruments.

6. a. The designation, number of outstanding shares, and number of votes entitled to be cast by each voting group entitled to vote separately on the Plan of Merger as to each corporation is as follows:

<u>Corporation</u>	<u>Designation of Group</u>	<u>Shares Outstanding</u>	<u>Votes Entitled To Be Cast on Amendment</u>
AHC Inc.	Common	1,000	1,000

b. The total number of undisputed votes cast for the Plan of Merger by each voting group was:

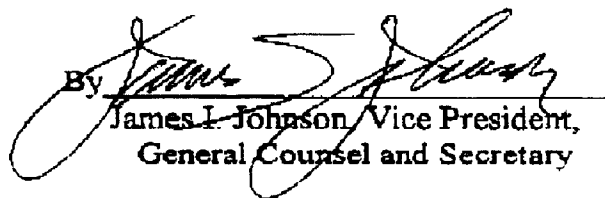
<u>Corporation</u>	<u>Voting Group</u>	<u>Votes For</u>
AHC Inc.	Common	1,000

7. Approval by the shareholder of HON was not required under Section 490.1103(7) of the Code of Iowa (1999).

8. The Articles of Incorporation of AHC are filed in Montgomery County, Alabama.

Signed on December 29, 1999.

THE HON COMPANY  
(An Iowa Corporation)


By   
James L. Johnson, Vice President,  
General Counsel and Secretary


ATTEST:

  
Florence E. Pedersen, Assistant Secretary

AHC INC.  
(An Alabama Corporation)


ATTEST:

  
Florence E. Pedersen, Assistant Secretary

By   
James I. Johnson, Vice President and  
Secretary

I, Florence E. Pedersen, Assistant Secretary of both The HON Company and AHC Inc., do hereby certify that, on the date of these Articles of Merger, James I. Johnson is the Vice President and Secretary of both The HON Company and AHC Inc. and that the signatures set forth above his name are his genuine signatures.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 29<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1999.

  
Florence E. Pedersen  
Assistant Secretary

00214