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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks. Please record this



of.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Michinobu NAKAMURA
Mitsuyoshi SEKI
Miyoko NAWATA
Hidetsugu NAKAZAWA
Hideki OKAMURA

4-21-03

2. Name

102431194

Name: AJINOMOTO CO., INC.
Address: No. 15-1, Kyobashi 1-chome,
Chuo-ku,
Tokyo, Japan

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

3. Nature of Conveyance:

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

Execution Date: June 20, 12, 10, 10, and 11, 2002

Additional name(s) and 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: N/A

A. Patent Application No.(s)

09/674,280

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

6. Total 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: 15-0030
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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.

Norman F. Oblon

Name of Person Signing

Signature

4/21/03

Date

Registration Number: 24,618

Vincent K. Shier, Ph. D.

Registration Number 50,552

Total number of pages including this cover sheet: 3

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PATENT
REEL: 013980 FRAME: 0278

Assignment of Application

WHEREAS, I (WE) 1.) Michinobu NAKAMURA, c/o Kawasaki Plant, Ajinomoto Co., Inc., No. 1-1,
Suzuki-cho, Kawasaki-ku, Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken, Japan

2.) Mitsuyoshi SEKI, c/o Kawasaki Plant, Ajinomoto Co., Inc., No. 1-1,
Suzuki-cho, Kawasaki-ku, Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken, Japan

3.) Miyoko NAWATA, c/o Kawasaki Plant, Ajinomoto Co., Inc., No. 1-1,
Suzuki-cho, Kawasaki-ku, Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken, Japan

4.) Hidetsugu NAKAZAWA, c/o Kawasaki Plant, Ajinomoto Co., Inc., No. 1-1,
Suzuki-cho, Kawasaki-ku, Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken, Japan

5.) Hideki OKAMURA, c/o Food Research & Development, Ajinomoto Co., Inc.,
No. 1-1, Suzuki-cho, Kawasaki-ku, Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken, Japan

INSERT NAMES AND RESIDENCE ADDRESS OF THE INVENTORS

_____, respectively,

INSERT TITLE OF INVENTION

have invented certain new and useful improvements in: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING PROTEIN

HYDROLYZATE

INSERT DATE INVENTOR(S) SIGNED DECLARATION

for which an application for Letters Patent was executed on November 7, 2000

(Application No. 09/674,280, filed December 21, 2000), and

INSERT NAME AND ADDRESS OF COMPANY OR OTHER ASSIGNEE

WHEREAS, AJINOMOTO CO., INC.

(hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE") having a place of business at: No. 15-1, Kyobashi 1-chome, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan

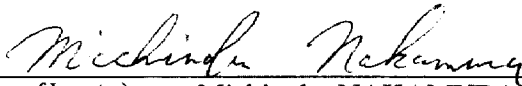
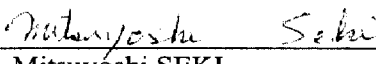

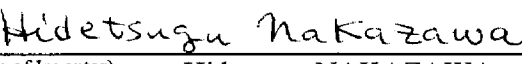
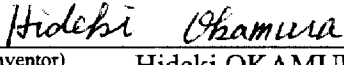
is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to any Letters Patent that may be granted therefore in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of FIVE DOLLARS (\$5.00), the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, and for other good and valuable consideration, I (WE), by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto said ASSIGNEE, the full and exclusive right to the said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions and in all foreign countries and the entire right, title and interest in and to any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries and in and to any and all divisions, reissues, continuations, substitutions and renewals thereof.

I (WE) hereby authorize and request the Patent Office Officials in the United States and its territorial possessions and any and all foreign countries to issue any and all of said Letters Patent, when granted, to said ASSIGNEE as the assignee of my (our) entire right, title and interest in and to the same, for the sole use and behoof of said ASSIGNEE, its (his) successors and assigns, to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by me (us) had this Assignment and sale not been made.

Further, I (WE) agree that I (WE) will communicate to said ASSIGNEE or its (his) representatives any facts known to me (us) respecting said invention, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuation, substitute, renewal and reissue applications, execute all necessary assignment papers to cause any and all of said Letter Patent to be issued to said ASSIGNEE, make all rightful oaths, and, generally do everything possible to aid said ASSIGNEE, its (his) successors and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper protection for said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries.

The undersigned hereby grant(s) the firm of Oblon, Spivak, McClelland, Maier & Neustadt, P.C. of Fourth Floor, 1755 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202 the power to insert on this assignment any further identification, including the application number and filing date, 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.

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Date: <u>June 20, 2002</u> | <u></u> (Signature of Inventor) Michinobu NAKAMURA |
| Date: <u>June 12, 2002</u> | <u></u> (Signature of Inventor) Mitsuyoshi SEKI |
| Date: <u>June 10, 2002</u> | <u></u> (Signature of Inventor) Miyoko NAWATA |
| Date: <u>June 10, 2002</u> | <u></u> (Signature of Inventor) Hidetsugu NAKAZAWA |
| Date: <u>June 11, 2002</u> | <u></u> (Signature of Inventor) Hideki OKAMURA |
| Date: _____ | _____ (Signature of Inventor) |
| Date: _____ | _____ (Signature of Inventor) |
| Date: _____ | _____ (Signature of Inventor) |

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10/01

RECORDED: 04/21/2003

PATENT
REEL: 013980 FRAME: 0280