

05-08-2003

IN THE UNITED



102442374

MARK OFFICE

PATENT

Watts, Hoffmann, Fisher & Heinke Co., L.P.A.
PO Box 99839
Cleveland, Ohio 44199-0839
Telephone: (216) 241-6700
Docket No.: 14-218, 14-082C1

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

5.6.03

Please record the attached original document(s) or copy thereof as follows:

Conveying Party: Miles Haines

Receiving Party: Khaled Karrai
Address: Ringseisstr 10
80337 Munich, Germany

Nature of Conveyance: Assignment

Date of Execution: December 3, 2002

Please record against:
Patent No(s): 5,663,798, dated September 2, 1997 and 6,006,594, dated December 28, 1999

Application No(s): N/A

No. of Patent(s): 2 *No. of Application(s):* 0

FINANCE SECTION
NOV - 6 PM 1:41
RECORDS

A check in the amount of \$ 80.00 for the recordal fees is enclosed.
Please charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment, to deposit account 23-0630.

To my best knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct. Please correspond with Watts, Hoffmann, Fisher & Heinke at the above address.

05/07/2003 DBYRNE 00000214 5663798

01 FC:8021

80.00 OF

7/30/03
Date

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Sharpe
Registration No. 34,722

PATENT
REEL: 014027 FRAME: 0974

ASSIGNMENT

On this third day of December in the year two-thousand-and-two (3 December 2002) the following agreement is entered into between:

Miles Haines of 14 Byron Close, Bishop's Waltham, Southampton SO32 1RS, United Kingdom

Karen Haines of 14 Byron Close, Bishop's Waltham, Southampton SO32 1RS, United Kingdom

Khaled Karrai of Ringseisstrasse 10, 80337 Munich, Germany

PREAMBLE

1. Khaled Karrai and Miles Haines are joint owners of equal shares (50% each) in first, second and third inventions (hereinafter "the inventions") which have been subject to a number of patent applications and patents (hereinafter "patents") that are set out in the schedule below.
2. Miles Haines wishes to transfer his equal share in the inventions to Khaled Karrai, via Karen Haines.

THE PARTIES AGREE THE FOLLOWING

1. For good and valuable consideration of the sum of one pound sterling now paid by Karen Haines to Miles Haines, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged by Miles Haines, Miles Haines has assigned his rights in the inventions to Karen Haines including all rights, privileges, powers and immunities derived from the patents.
2. For good and valuable consideration of the sum of one pound sterling now paid by Khaled Karrai to Karen Haines, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged by Karen Haines, Karen Haines has assigned her rights in the inventions received via Clause 1 to Khaled Karrai including all rights, privileges, powers and immunities derived from the patents.
3. This document is executed in triplicate.

GENERAL

4. Khaled Karrai undertakes to transfer to Karen Haines fifty percent of any future income received from granting rights in the inventions to any party by sale, license or in any other way.
5. This assignment is to be dealt with under the laws of England and any dispute shall be dealt with in the English courts.

SCHEDULE

The first invention relates to far-field characterisation of sub-wavelength sized apertures and is covered by the following patent rights:

1. UK Patent No. GB 2 301 180 B (9608827.3);
2. German Patent No. DE 196 17 356 C2; and
3. US Patent No. US 5,663,798.

The second invention relates to a head for a scanning probe microscope with integrated signal processing circuit and is covered by the following patent rights:

1. US Patent No. US 6,006,594.


The third invention relates to a reflection-mode near-field scanning optical microscope and is covered by the following patent rights:

1. UK Patent No. GB 2 323 234B; and
2. European Patent Application No. 97306032.0.

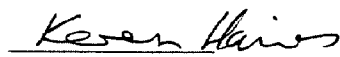
SIGNATURES


Khaled Karrai

Katrin Katterbach
Witnessed by


Miles Haines

Simon Miles
Witnessed by


Karen Haines

Simon Miles
Witnessed by