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To the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:  
Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

JC971 U.S. PTO  
10/443805  
05/23/03

1. Name of conveying party(ies):  
[FAMILY NAME (ALL CAPS), Given Name]  
**MIKITA, Toshiya** **5-23-03**  
**TATEISHI, Yoshinobu**  
**MINAKUCHI, Yasunori**  
**MATSUYAMA, Kazuhiro**  
**IDE, Atsushi**  
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?  
 YES  NO

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)  
Name: **SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA**  
Internal Address:  
Street Address: **22-22, Nagaike-cho, Abeno-ku**  
City: **Osaka-shi** State: **Osaka** ZIP:  
Country: **JAPAN** Postal Code: **545-0013**  
Additional name(s) & address(es) attached?  YES  NO

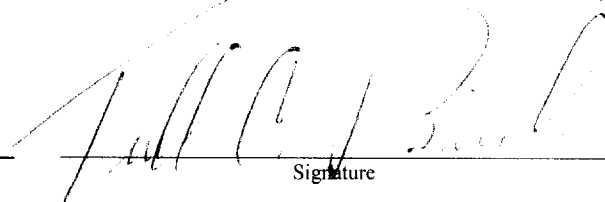
3. Nature of conveyance:  
 Assignment  Merger  
 Security Agreement  Change of Name  
 Other:  
Execution Date: **April 23, 2003**

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s): **10443805**  
If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: **April 23, 2003**  
A. Patent Application No(s). B. Patent No.(s).  
Additional numbers attached?  YES  NO

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:  
Name: **BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP**  
Street Address: **P.O. BOX 747**  
City: **FALLS CHURCH** State: **VA** ZIP: **22040-0747**  
Country: **USA**

6. Total No. of applications/patents involved: **one (1)**  
7. Total fee (37 C.F.R. § 3.41): **\$40.00**  
 Enclosed  
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account, **if no fee attached.**  
8. Deposit account number: **02-2448**  
(Attach triplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

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9. Statement and signature.  
**Terrell C. Birch, #19,382**   
Name of Person Signing/Reg. No. Signature Date **May 23, 2003**

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: **four (4)**

05/27/2003 SFELEKE1 00000082 10443805  
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TCB/rwl  
(Rev. 04/30/03)

Attachment to  
RECORDATION FORM COVER SHEET

Continuation of Box 1--Name of conveying party(ies):

**YAMANAKA, Toshio**

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,

Continuation of Box 2--Name and address of receiving party(ies):

Continuation of Box 4--Application number(s) or patent number(s):

**BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP**

UNITED STATES PATENT RIGHTS, OR  
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**ASSIGNMENT**

Application No.        / New

Filed May 23, 2003

**Insert Name(s)  
of Inventor(s)**

\*\*\***(Given Name FAMILY NAME (ALL CAPS))**\*\*\*

WHEREAS,	<u>Toshiya MIKITA</u>	;	<u>Yoshinobu TATEISHI</u>
<u>Yasunori MINAKUCHI</u>	<u>Kazuhiro MATSUYAMA</u>	;	<u>Atsushi IDE</u>
<u>Toshio YAMANAKA</u>			

**Insert Title  
of Invention**

(hereinafter designated as the undersigned) has (have) invented certain new and useful improvements in  
FUNCTIONAL UNIT SUPPORT MECHANISM AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS PROVIDED WITH THE SUPPORT MECHANISM

for which an application for Letters Patent of the United States of America has been executed by the undersigned (except in the case of a provisional application).

**Insert Date  
of Signing of  
Application**

on April 23, 2003; and

**Insert Name  
of Assignee**

WHEREAS, Sharp Kabushiki Kaisha

**Insert Address  
of Assignee**

of 22-22, Nagaike-cho, Abeno-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 545-0013 JAPAN

its heirs, successors, legal representatives and assigns (hereinafter designated as the Assignee) is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to any Letters Patent(s) that may be granted therefor in the United States of America and  in any foreign countries.

**CHECK BOX  
IF APPROPRIATE**

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) to the undersigned in hand paid, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and other good and valuable consideration, the undersigned has (have) sold, assigned and transferred, and by these presents does sell, assign and transfer unto said Assignee the full and exclusive right to the said invention in the United States of America, its territories, dependencies and possessions and the entire right, title and interest in and to any and all Letters Patent(s) which may be granted therefor in the United States of America, its territories, dependencies and possessions, and if the box above is designated, in any and all foreign countries;

and to any and all divisions, reissues, continuations, conversions and extensions thereof for the full term or terms for which the same may be granted.

The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with this application and any continuing, divisional, conversion or reissue applications thereof and also to execute separate assignments in connection with such applications as the Assignee may deem necessary or expedient.

The undersigned agree (s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with any interference which may be declared concerning this application or continuation, division, conversion or reissue thereof or Letter Patent(s) or reissue patent issued thereon and to cooperate with the Assignee in every way possible in obtaining and producing evidence and proceeding with such interference.

The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers and documents and to perform any act which may be necessary in connection with claims or provisions of the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property or similar agreements.

The undersigned agree(s) to perform all affirmative acts which may be necessary to obtain a grant of a valid United States of America patent(s) or a grant of a valid United States of America and any foreign patent(s) to the Assignee and to vest all rights therein hereby conveyed to said Assignee as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by the undersigned if this Assignment and sale had not been made.

The undersigned hereby authorize(s) and request(s) the Patent and Trademark Office Officials in the United States of America and in any foreign countries to issue any and all Letters Patents resulting from said application or any continuing, divisional conversion or reissue applications thereof to the said Assignee, as Assignee of the entire interest, and hereby covenants that he has (they have) the full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that he has (they have) not executed, and will not execute, any agreement in conflict herewith.

The undersigned hereby grant(s) the law firm of Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP 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 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document.

The undersigned hereby covenant(s) that no assignment, sale, agreement or encumbrance has been or will be made or entered into which would conflict with this assignment.

In witness whereof, executed by the undersigned on the date(s) opposite the undersigned name(s).

Date April 23, 2003

Name of Inventor Toshiya Mikita  
(signature) Toshiya MIKITA

Date April 23, 2003

Name of Inventor Yoshinobu Tateishi  
(signature) Yoshinobu TATEISHI

Date April 23, 2003

Name of Inventor Yasunori Minakuchi  
(signature) Yasunori MINAKUCHI

Date April 23, 2003

Name of Inventor Kazuhiro Matsuyama  
(signature) Kazuhiro MATSUYAMA

Date April 23, 2003

Name of Inventor Atsushi Ide  
(signature) Atsushi IDE

Date April 23, 2003

Name of Inventor Toshio Yamataka  
(signature) Toshio YAMANAKA