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06-16-2003

Attorney Docket No. 78601



102473436

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

George B. Houk

Gregory A. Pace

6-9-03

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

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: U.S. Smokeless Tobacco Company

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

Street Address: 100 West Putnam Avenue

City: Greenwich State: Connecticut ZIP: 06830

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

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

Execution Date: May 23, 2003

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)

29/177,746

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

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

Name: James P. Krueger  
FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

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

Street Address: Suite 1600  
120 South LaSalle Street

City: Chicago State: IL ZIP: 60603-3406

6. Total number of 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:

06-1135

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

06/16/2003 ECDOPER 00000030 061135 29177746

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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.

James P. Krueger

Name of Person Signing

35,234

Registration No.

James P. Krueger  
Signature

JUN 04 2003

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 4

Fax documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to (703) 306-5995  
Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:  
Mail Stop Assignment Recordation Services, Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## ASSIGNMENT

We, **George B. Houk**, residing in Murfreesboro, a city in the State of Tennessee, **Gregory A. Pace**, residing in Nunnely, a city in the State of Tennessee, for good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have assigned and do hereby assign to **U.S. Smokeless Tobacco Company**, having a place of business at **100 West Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, Connecticut 06830, USA**, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, the entire right, title and interest in and to all subject matter invented by us and disclosed in the utility application for Letters Patent of the United States entitled,

### **Tobacco Can**

*U.S. Application No. 29/177,746, Filed March 14, 2003*

signed by us on the date set forth below and in and to all patent and all convention and treaty rights of all kinds including the rights to claim priority therefrom, in the United States of America, for all such subject matter. We agree to sign all documents necessary to secure all said patents and rights, and request issuance of said Letters Patents to the above assigned in accordance with this request.

Date: May 23, 2003

George B. Houk  
George B. Houk

STATE OF Tennessee )  
 ) SS  
COUNTY OF Davidson )

I hereby certify that, before me in the County of Davidson in the State of Tennessee, personally appeared **George B. Houk** personally known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged that he executed it.

Witness my hand and official seal.

Date: May 23, 2003

Rebecca J. Armstrong  
Notary Public  
My Commission Expires:  
11-22-03

Date: May 23, 2003

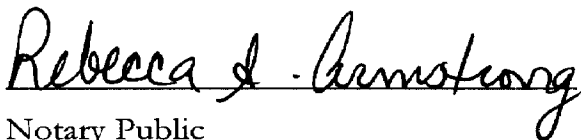
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregory A. Pace

STATE OF Tennessee )  
 ) SS  
COUNTY OF Davidson )

I hereby certify that, before me in the County of Davidson in the State of Tennessee, personally appeared **Gregory A. Pace** personally known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged that he executed it.

Witness my hand and official seal.

Date: May 23, 2003

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
My Commission Expires:  
11-22-03