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A. Patent Application No.(s)

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

Name: John J. Gresens
Address: Merchant & Gould P.C.
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ASSIGNMENT

In consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) in hand paid, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned,

Full name of
Inventor(s)

LE COUEDIC Régis, PASQUET Denis

hereby sell(s), assign(s) and transfer(s) to

Full name and
address of
Assignee(s)

SPINE NEXT

23 Parvis des Chartrons, La Cité Mondiale

F-33000 BORDEAUX, France

[hereinafter called the Assignee(s)] the entire right, title and interest in and to any and all improvements which are disclosed in the application for United States Letters Patent entitled

Title of
Invention

FLEXIBLE LINKING PIECE FOR STABILISING THE SPINE

which was filed by the undersigned in the form of an International Application which designated the United States of America under Number PCT/FR01/02426 on July 25, 2001 and which entered the National Stage in the United States of America under Serial Number on ; the aforesaid application for United States Letters Patent and all divisionals, continuations and substitutes thereof; and any and all United States Letters Patent which may be granted therefor and any and all extensions, reissues or renewals thereof; and the right to all benefits under the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property and under the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

It is hereby authorized and requested that the Commissioner of Patents issue any and all of said Letters Patent, when granted, to said Assignee(s).

Further, it is agreed that, when requested, without charge to but at the expense of said Assignee(s), the undersigned will execute all divisional, continuing, substitute, renewal and reissue patent applications; execute all rightful other papers; and generally do everything possible which said Assignee(s) shall consider desirable for aiding in securing and maintaining proper patent protection.

Signed at Bordeaux

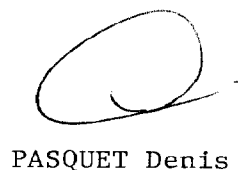
Date

this 9th day of January 2003

INVENTOR(S) :

Full
signature(s)
of
Inventor(s)


LE COUEDIC Régis


PASQUET Denis