

10-21-2003

Form PTO-1595

(Rev. 03/01)

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

OMB No. 0651-0027 (exp. 5/31/2002)

102579801

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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

## 1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Jean Johnson  
Marcy Carlson  
Brenda EspelienAdditional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

## 3. Nature of conveyance:

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

Execution Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: Stearns Inc.

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

Street Address: 1100 Stearns Drive

City: Sauk Rapids State: MN Zip: 56379

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No22164 U S PTO  
10/681793

## 4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: STEA-1-1002

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: 10/8/2003

A. Patent Application No.(s)

B. Patent No.(s)

10/681793

Additional numbers attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

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

Name: David A. Lowe, Esq.

Internal Address: Black Lowe &amp; Graham, PLLC

Street Address: 701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4800

City: Seattle State: WA Zip: 98104

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: ☒ 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40

☒ Enclosed☐ Authorized to be charged to deposit account

## 8. Deposit account number:

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

10/20/2003 DBYRNE 00000138 10681793

01 FC:8021

40.00 DP

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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.

David A. Lowe

Name of Person Signing

Signature

October 8, 2003

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: ☒ 5

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:

Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments  
Washington, D.C. 20231PATENT  
REEL: 014595 FRAME: 0222

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Johnson, et al. Attorney Docket No. STEA-1-1002  
Serial No.: — Group Art Unit: —  
Filing Date: — Examiner: —  
Title: FOAM STABILIZATION FOR PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE

**ASSIGNMENT**

WHEREAS, I, Jean Johnson, residing at 10468 Monroe Avenue NW, South Haven, Minnesota, 55382 am one of the inventors named in the above-identified United States patent application;

WHEREAS, I, Marcy Carlson, residing at 1220 Cary Court, St. Joseph, Minnesota, 56374, am one of the inventors named in the above-identified United States patent application;

WHEREAS, I, Brenda Espelien, residing at 314 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, St Cloud, Minnesota, 56303 am one of the inventors named in the above-identified United States patent application;

AND, WHEREAS, Stearns Inc, a Minnesota corporation, having a principal address at 1100 Stearns Drive, Sauk Rapids, Minnesota 56379, (hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNEE), is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title, and interest in and to the patent application and related inventions;

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and intending to be legally bound, I hereby assign and transfer to ASSIGNEE the entire right, title, and interest in and to the patent application and related inventions, including all improvements, variations, derivations and inventive subject matter directly or indirectly related to the patent application and inventions, and all provisional or nonprovisional patent applications or issued patents that have been or may be granted thereon, including without limitation all reissues, divisions, continuations, continuations-in-part, and extensions of the patent applications or patents, or any other form of protection for the inventions



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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STEA-1-1002ASGN

BLACK LOWE & GRAHAM <sup>PLLC</sup>

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Seattle, Washington 98104  
206.381.3300 • F: 206.381.3301

**PATENT**

**REEL: 014595 FRAME: 0223**

related to the patent application, in the United States and foreign countries; all rights of action arising from the inventions and all applications and patents on the inventions; all claims for damages by reason of past and future infringement of the inventions and all applications and patents on the inventions, and the right to sue and collect damages for such infringement; all of the foregoing assigned rights to be held and enjoyed by the ASSIGNEE for its own use and benefit and for its successors and assigns as the same would have been held by me had this assignment not been made.

I do hereby further agree and promise to execute all instruments and render all such assistance as ASSIGNEE may request in order to: make and prosecute any and all applications on the inventions, maintain and enforce any and all patents on the inventions, and confirm in ASSIGNEE legal title to the inventions and all applications and patents on the inventions in the United States and foreign countries, all without charge to ASSIGNEE but at no expense to me. In the event that ASSIGNEE is unable for any reason, after reasonable effort, to secure my signature on any document needed in connection with the actions specified in this paragraph, or to otherwise perfect in ASSIGNEE the entire right, title, and interest in and to the patent application and related inventions, I hereby irrevocably designate and appoint the ASSIGNEE and its duly authorized officers and agents as my agent and attorney-in-fact, to act for and in my behalf to execute, verify and file any such documents and to do all other lawfully permitted acts to further the purposes of this assignment with the same legal force and effect as if executed by me. I hereby waive and quitclaim to the ASSIGNEE any and all claims, of any nature whatsoever, which I now or may hereafter have for infringement of any proprietary rights assigned to the ASSIGNEE.

If any provision of this assignment is held by any court to be unenforceable, such provision shall be interpreted to accomplish the objectives of the original provision to the fullest extent allowed by law, and the remainder of this assignment shall remain in full force and effect.



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**PATENT**  
**REEL: 014595 FRAME: 0224**

EXECUTED at Sauk Rapids (city), MN (state), on 10-3, 2003.

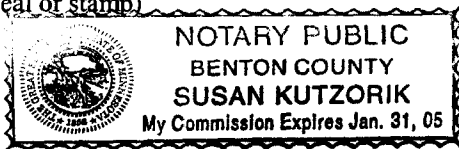
Jean Johnson  
Jean Johnson

STATE OF MINNESOTA )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF )

I certify that I know or have satisfactory evidence that Jean Johnson is the person who appeared before me and signed this instrument and acknowledged such signature to be a voluntary act for the purposes mentioned in the instrument.

Dated: 10-3-03

(Seal or stamp)



Susan Kutzorik  
Signature  
Printed Name: Susan Kutzorik  
Notary Public  
My appointment expires 1-31-05

EXECUTED at Sauk Rapids (city), MN (state), on 10/3, 2003.

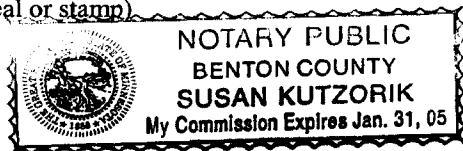
Marcy Carlson  
Marcy Carlson

STATE OF MINNESOTA )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF )

I certify that I know or have satisfactory evidence that Marcy Carlson is the person who appeared before me and signed this instrument and acknowledged such signature to be a voluntary act for the purposes mentioned in the instrument.

Dated: 10-3-03

(Seal or stamp)



Susan Kutzorik  
Signature  
Printed Name: Susan Kutzorik  
Notary Public  
My appointment expires 1-31-05



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**PATENT**  
**REEL: 014595 FRAME: 0225**

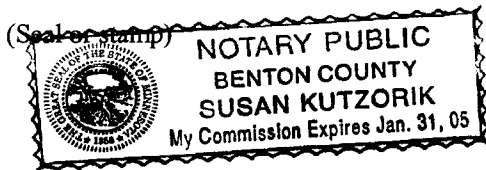
EXECUTED at Sauk Rapids (city), MN (state), on 10-03-03, 2003.

Brenda Espelien  
Brenda Espelien

STATE OF MINNESOTA     )  
                                      ) ss.  
COUNTY OF                 )

I certify that I know or have satisfactory evidence that Brenda Espelien is the person who appeared before me and signed this instrument and acknowledged such signature to be a voluntary act for the purposes mentioned in the instrument.

Dated: 10-3-03



Susan Kutzorik  
Signature  
Printed Name: Susan Kutzorik  
Notary Public  
My appointment expires 1-5-05



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BLACK LOWE & GRAHAM PLLC

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**PATENT**

**RECORDED: 10/08/2003**

**REEL: 014595 FRAME: 0226**