

10-27-2003



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OMB No. 0651-0027 (exp. 6/30/2005)

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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): Daniel A. Copeland Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? [] Yes [x] No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies) Name: United States Pipe & Foundry Company Internal Address: c/o Legal Department - Patents Street Address: 3300 First Avenue North City: Birmingham State: AL Zip: 35222 Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? [] Yes [x] No

3. Nature of conveyance: [x] Assignment [] Merger [] Security Agreement [] Change of Name [] Other Execution Date: 10/14/2003

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: 10/14/2003 A. Patent Application No.(s) Filed Herewith 101685914 B. Patent No.(s) Additional numbers attached? [] Yes [x] No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed: Name: Nathan W. Johnson Internal Address: Bradley Arant Rose & White LLP Street Address: 1819 Fifth Avenue North City: Birmingham State: AL Zip: 35203-2104

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: [1] 7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40.00 [x] Enclosed [x] Authorized to be charged to deposit account 8. Deposit account number: 50-0954

10/24/2003 DRYNE 00000130 500954 10685914 01 FC:8021 9. Signatures DA

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Nathan W. Johnson, Reg. No. 44173 Name of Person Signing

Signature

October 15, 2003 Date

Total number of pages, including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: [3]

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to: Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments Washington, D.C. 20231

22154 U.S. PTO 10/685914 101503

ASSIGNMENT OF PATENT APPLICATION

FOR GOOD AND VALUABLE CONSIDERATION,

I, Daniel A. Copeland, have agreed and hereby agree to assign for good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby expressly acknowledged, and do hereby sell, assign and transfer unto

United States Pipe and Foundry Company

a corporation organized under the laws of the state of Alabama, as Assignee, and its successors, assigns and legal representatives, the entire right, title and interest that I may have, for all countries in and to the inventions relating to the

**ENERGIZED RESTRAINING GASKET
FOR MECHANICAL JOINTS OF PIPES**

described in the application for Letters Patent of the United States filed herewith, bearing Application Serial Number _____ and to any invention(s) and improvement(s) set forth in said application, and any and all continuations, continuations-in-part, divisionals, and renewals of and substitutes for said application for said Letters Patent, and all the rights and privileges under any and all Letters Patent that may be granted therefor in any country, and any reissues, or reexaminations, or extensions of said Letters Patent. I request that any and all Letters Patent for said inventions be issued to said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, or to such nominees as it may designate. (I consent to the entry by Assignee or its representatives of the Serial Number assigned by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office into the blank provided therefor, above, following notice of such assignment to Assignee by such Office).

I agree that, when requested, I will, without charge to said Assignee but at its expense, sign all papers, take all rightful oaths, and do all acts which may be necessary, desirable or convenient for securing and maintaining patents for said inventions in any and all countries and for vesting title thereto in said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives or nominees.

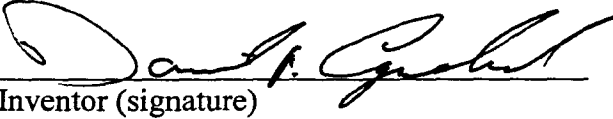
I authorize and empower said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives or nominees, to invoke and claim for any application for patent or other form of protection for said inventions filed by it or them, the benefit of the right of priority provided by the Patent Cooperation Treaty, the Paris Convention, and the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, as amended, or by any convention which may henceforth be substituted for said treaties and conventions, and to invoke and claim such right of priority without further written or oral authorization from me.

I hereby consent that a copy of this assignment shall be deemed a full legal and formal equivalent of any

assignment, consent to file or like document which may be required in any country for any purpose and more particularly in proof of the right of the said Assignee or nominee to claim the aforesaid benefit of the right of priority provided by the International convention which may henceforth be substituted for it.

I covenant with said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, that the rights and property herein conveyed are free and clear of any encumbrance, and that I have full right to convey the same as herein expressed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name on the day and year set forth below.


Inventor (signature)

10-14-03
DATE

Daniel A. Copeland
(Inventor's Typed Name)

STATE OF ALABAMA)
) SS
COUNTY OF SHELBY)

On this 14 day of October, 2003 before me personally came the above named **Daniel A. Copeland**, who is personally known or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the same individual who executed the foregoing assignment, and who acknowledged to me that he executed the same of his own free will for the use and purposes therein set forth.


NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires:
NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF ALABAMA AT LARGE
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: Dec 29, 2005
BONDED THRU NOTARY PUBLIC UNDERWRITERS