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1. Name of conveying party(ies): MISHIMA, Setsuo TAKAO, Hidemi HARA, Ken-ichiro FUJITA, Etsuo Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies): HITACHI METALS, LTD. 2-1, Shibaura-1-chome, Minato-ku Tokyo Japan Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes No



3. Nature of conveyance: Assignment Merger Security Agreement Change of Name Other

Execution Date: November 11, 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: November 11, 2003 A. Patent Application No.(s) 10 715 568 B. Patent No.(s) Additional numbers attached? Yes No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed: SUGHRUE MION, PLLC WASHINGTON OFFICE 23373 CUSTOMER NUMBER 11/21/2003 BYRNE 00000089 10715568 01 FR:0021 40.00 00

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 No. 19-4880. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. 8. Deposit Account Number: 19-4880 (Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

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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. Peter D. Olexy / Bruce E. Cram Reg. No. 33,725 November 19, 2003 Peter D. Olexy Reg. No. 24,513 Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: 2 Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to: MAIL STOP ASSIGNMENT RECORDATION SERVICES Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ASSIGNMENT

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

IN CONSIDERATION of the sum of One Dollar(\$1.00) or the equivalent thereof, and other good and valuable consideration paid to me citizen of Japan by HITACHI METALS, LTD., a corporation organized under the laws of Japan, located at 2-1, Shibaura-1-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged I do hereby sell and assign to said HITACHI METALS, LTD., its successors and assigns, all my right, title and interest, in and for the United States of America, in and to

"MARAGING STEEL AND METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME"

invented by me (if only one is named below) or us (if plural inventors are named below) and described in the application for United States Letters Patent therefor, executed on even date herewith,

and all United States Letters Patent which may be granted therefor, and all divisions, continuations and extensions thereof, the said interest being the entire ownership of the said Letters Patent when granted, to be held and enjoyed by said HITACHI METALS, LTD., its successors, assigns or other legal representatives, to the full end of term for which said Letters Patent may be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by me or us if this assignment and sale had not been made;

And I hereby agree to sign and execute any further documents or instruments which may be necessary, lawful, and proper in the prosecution of the above-named application or in the preparation and prosecution of any continuing, continuation-in-part, substitute, divisional, renewal, reviewed or reissue applications or in any amendment, extension, or interference proceedings, or otherwise to secure the title thereto in said assignee;

And I do hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents to issue said Letters Patent to said HITACHI METALS, LTD.

Signed on the date(s) indicated aside signatures:

INVENTOR(S) (発明者フルネームサイン)	Date Signed (署名日)	WITNESSES (立会人サイン)
1) <u>Setsuo MISHIMA</u> Setsuo MISHIMA	November 11, 2003	<u>Hideya Yamada</u>
2) <u>Hidemi TAKAO</u> Hidemi TAKAO	November 11, 2003	<u>Hideya Yamada</u>
3) <u>Ken-ichiro HARA</u> Ken-ichiro HARA	November 11, 2003	<u>Hideya Yamada</u>
4) <u>Etsuo FUJITA</u> Etsuo FUJITA	November 11, 2003	<u>Hideya Yamada</u>
5) _____	_____	_____
6) _____	_____	_____
7) _____	_____	_____
8) _____	_____	_____
9) _____	_____	_____