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1. Name of conveying party(ies): Nobuyuki SAIKA 1-23-04

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

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies) Hitachi, Ltd. 6, Kanda Surugadai 4-chome Chiyoda-ku Tokyo, Japan

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

3. Nature of conveyance:  Assignment  Merger  Security Agreement  Change of Name  Other: Execution Date: October 10, 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): 10/649,172 B. Patent No(s): Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed: Name: Robert C. Colwell TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834 (415) 576-0200

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: 20-1430 (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.

Chun-Pok Leung Name of Person Signing Atty. Reg. No. 41,405

[Signature] Signature

January 20, 2004 Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and documents: 2

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

01/29/2004 ECOOPER 00000195 201430 10649172 Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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ASSIGNMENT  
( 譲 渡 証 )

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, Ltd., a corporation organized under the laws of Japan, located at 6, Kanda Surugadai 4-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged I do hereby sell and assign to said Hitachi, Ltd., its successors and assigns, all my right, title and interest, in and for the United States of America, in and to

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING A STORAGE DEVICE

\*U.S. Serial No. 10/649172 filed on August 26, 2003

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, 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, Ltd.,

Signed on the date(s) indicated aside our signatures:

INVENTOR(S)  
(発明者フルネームサイン)

Date Signed  
(署名日)

1)	<u>Nobuyuki Saka</u>	<u>10/10/03</u>
2)	_____	_____
3)	_____	_____
4)	_____	_____
5)	_____	_____
6)	_____	_____
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8)	_____	_____
9)	_____	_____
10)	_____	_____