



03-01-2004



To the Honorable Director of Patent

102680815

al documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of Conveying party(ies):  
SUZUKI, Nobumasa  
NOHARA, Yutaka  
NAKAHARA, Shinnosuke  
SATO, Shigenobu  
UEYAMA, Kazumasa  
HASEGAWA, Kazuhiro  
ORIBE, Kazuya  
TAKAMIDO, Hiroshi

2-25-04

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: Showa Ika Kohgyo Co., Ltd.

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

Street Address: 1-1, Hongo, Meito-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi-ken, Japan

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

Assignment  Merger  
 Security Agreement  Change of Name  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Execution Date: January 30, 2004

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)  
10/659,302

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached:  Yes  No

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

Name: Bruce H. Bernstein

Internal Address: P24196

Street Address: GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.

1950 Roland Clarke Place

City: Reston State: VA ZIP: 20191

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:

19-0089

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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.

Bruce H. Bernstein, Reg. No. 29,027  
Name of Person Signing

[Signature]  
Signature

2/25/04  
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document: 7

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

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark office, Mail Stop Assignments  
PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

00000104 10659302

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, **Nobumasa SUZUKI**, a citizen of **Japan**, whose post office address is **3-23-20, Kamikitazawa, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo, Japan**, **Yutaka NOHARA**, a citizen of **Japan**, whose post office address is **10-A-827, Gamoukotobukicho 2-chome, Koshigaya-shi, Saitama-ken, Japan**, **Shinnosuke NAKAHARA**, a citizen of **Japan**, whose post office address is **2-6-34, Tsushimaminami, Okayama-shi, Okayama-ken, Japan**, **Shigenobu SATO**, a citizen of **Japan**, whose post office address is **2-3-2, Fukuzumiichijou, Toyohira-ku, Sapporo-shi, Hokkaido, Japan**, **Kazumasa UEYAMA**, a citizen of **Japan**, whose post office address is **3-8-4, Jousei, Hirosaki-shi, Aomori-ken, Japan**, **Kazuhiro HASEGAWA**, a citizen of **Japan**, whose post office address is **1-23-604, Yayoi-cho, Niigata-shi, Niigata-ken, Japan**, **Kazuya ORIBE**, a citizen of **Japan**, whose post office address is **c/o SHOWA IKA KOHGYO CO., LTD., 3-4-30, Shibakouen, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan**, and **Hiroshi TAKAMIDO**, a citizen of **Japan**, whose post office address is **c/o SHOWA IKA KOHGYO CO., LTD., 1-1, Hongo, Meito-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi-ken, Japan** hereinafter referred to as the ASSIGNOR, has invented a certain improvement relating to

**ROD FIXING APPARATUS FOR VERTEBRA CONNECTING MEMBER**

for which he has executed, on the same date as this assignment, an application for Letters Patent for the United States to be filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

If this Assignment is filed after the filing date of the above-identified application, the undersigned hereby authorize and request any one of the attorneys of record in this application including Neil F. Greenblum, Reg. No. 28,394, Bruce H. Bernstein, Reg. No. 29,027, Arnold Turk, Reg. No. 33,094, James L. Rowland, Reg. No. 32,674, Stephen M. Roylance, Reg. No. 31,296, Leslie J. Paperner, Reg. No. 33,329, William Pieprz, Reg. No. 33,630, Robert W. Mueller, Reg. No. 35,043 and William E. Lyddane, Reg. No. 41,568, of the firm Greenblum & Bernstein, P.L.C., whose address is 1950 Roland Clarke Place, Reston, Virginia 20191, to insert here in parenthesis (Application No. 10/659,302, filed September 11, 2003) the filing date and application number of said application when known.

AND WHEREAS, **SHOWA IKA KOHGYO CO., LTD.**, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of **Japan**, whose post-office address is **1-1, Hongo, Meito-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi-ken, Japan**, hereinafter known as the ASSIGNEE, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest for the United States in and to said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, including any and all renewals, reissues, and prolongations thereof.

NOW, THIS WITNESSETH that for and in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other

good and valuable consideration, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, said ASSIGNOR hereby assigns, sells and transfers to said ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives, the entire and exclusive right, title and interest in and to said invention and application, for the United States including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor, said ASSIGNEE and its assigns and legal representatives to have, hold, exercise and enjoy the said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, including any and all renewals, reissues and prolongations thereof, with all the rights, powers, privileges, and advantages in any ways arising from or pertaining thereto, for and during the term or terms of any and all such Letters Patent when granted, including any and all renewals, reissues, and prolongations thereof, for the use and benefit of said ASSIGNEE and its assigns and legal representatives in as ample and beneficial a manner to all intents and purposes as the said ASSIGNOR might or could have held and enjoyed the same, if this assignment had not been made.

AND said ASSIGNOR hereby agrees to execute all papers necessary to file applications in the United States for said invention and to assign the same to said ASSIGNEE, or any assignee acquiring title to said invention, and to execute any other papers that may be needed in connection with filing said application and securing Letters Patent thereon.

AND said ASSIGNOR authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents to issue Letters Patent on said application, and on any and all divisions and continuations thereof, to said ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives, in accordance herewith.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, this assignment is executed by **Nobumasa SUZUKI**, this 30th day of January, 2004, at (address) 3-23-20, Kamikitazawa, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo, Japan.

First Witness:

MASATO YOKOYAMA  
 (Name) Masato YOKOYAMA  
January 30, 2004  
 (Date)

Nobumasa Suzuki Jan/30/04  
**Nobumasa SUZUKI**

Second Witness:

Takuya Miyamoto  
 (Name) Takuya MIYAMOTO  
January 30, 2004  
 (Date)

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IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, this assignment is executed by Yutaka NOHARA, this 30th day of January, 2004, at (address) **10-A-827, Gamoukotobukicho 2-chome, Koshigaya-shi, Saitama-ken, Japan.**

First Witness:

MASATO YOKOYAMA  
(Name) Masato YOKOYAMA  
January 30, 2004  
(Date)

January 30, 2004  
Yutaka Nohara  
Yutaka NOHARA

Second Witness:

T. Miyamoto  
(Name) Takuya MIYAMOTO  
January 30, 2004  
(Date)

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, this assignment is executed by Shinnosuke NAKAHARA, this 30th day of January, 2004, at (address) **2-6-34, Tsus-himaminami, Okayama-shi, Okayama-ken, Japan.**

First Witness:

MASATO YOKOYAMA  
(Name) Masato YOKOYAMA  
January 30, 2004  
(Date)

January 30, 2004  
Shinnosuke Nakahara  
Shinnosuke NAKAHARA

Second Witness:

T. Miyamoto  
(Name) Takuya MIYAMOTO  
January 30, 2004  
(Date)

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IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, this assignment is executed by Shigenobu SATO, this 30th day of January, 2004, at (address) 2-3-2, Fukuzumiichijou, Toyohira-ku, Sapporo-shi, Hokkaido, Japan,

First Witness:

MASATO Y. K. YOKOYAMA  
(Name) Masato YOKOYAMA  
January 30, 2004  
(Date)

Shigenobu SATO Jan/30/04  
Shigenobu SATO

Second Witness:

Takuya MIYAMOTO  
(Name) Takuya MIYAMOTO  
January 30, 2004  
(Date)

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, this assignment is executed by Kazumasa UYAMA, this 30th day of January, 2004, at (address) 3-8-4, Jousei, Hirosaki-shi, Aomori-ken, Japan,.

First Witness:

MASATO Y. K. YOKOYAMA  
(Name) Masato YOKOYAMA  
January 30, 2004  
(Date)

Kazumasa UYAMA Jan/30/04  
Kazumasa UYAMA

Second Witness:

Takuya MIYAMOTO  
(Name) Takuya MIYAMOTO  
January 30, 2004  
(Date)

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, this assignment is executed by **Kazuhiro HASEGAWA**, this 30th day of January, 2004, at (address) **1-23-604, Yayoi-cho, Niigata-shi, Niigata-ken, Japan.**

First Witness:

MASATO YOKOYAMA  
(Name) Masato YOKOYAMA  
January 30, 2004  
(Date)

January 30, 2004

K. Hasegawa  
K. Hasegawa  
**Kazuhiro HASEGAWA**

Second Witness:

T. Miyamoto  
(Name) Takuya MIYAMOTO  
January 30, 2004  
(Date)

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, this assignment is executed by **Kazuya ORIBE**, this 30th day of January, 2004, at (address) **c/o SHOWA IKA KOHGYO CO., LTD., 3-4-30, Shibakouen, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan.**

First Witness:

MASATO YOKOYAMA  
(Name) Masato YOKOYAMA  
January 30, 2004  
(Date)

Kazuya ORIBE Jan/30/2004  
**Kazuya ORIBE**

Second Witness:

T. Miyamoto  
(Name) Takuya MIYAMOTO  
January 30, 2004  
(Date)

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, this assignment is executed by **Hiroshi TAKAMIDO**, this 30th day of January, 2004, at (address) **c/o SHOWA IKA KOHGYO CO., LTD., 1-1, Hongo, Meito-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi-ken, Japan,.**

First Witness:

MASATO YOKOYAMA  
(Name) Masato YOKOYAMA  
January 30, 2004  
(Date)

H. Takamido Jan/30/2004  
**Hiroshi TAKAMIDO**

Second Witness:

Takuya Miyamoto  
(Name) Takuya MIYAMOTO  
January 30, 2004  
(Date)