

3.9-04

Express Mail Label No.: EV 386940862 US

Practitioner's Docket No. 3767.002

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

M/S: Assignments (fee)  
Commissioner for Patents  
P O Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

03-12-2004



102692266

ASSIGNMENT (DOCUMENT) COVER SHEET (37 C.F.R. § 3.31)

Attached please find an assignment (document) for recordal.

IDENTIFICATION OF APPLICATION(S) AND/OR PATENT(S)  
FOR ASSIGNMENT (DOCUMENT) RECORDAL  
(37 C.F.R. § 3.21 and 37 C.F.R. § 3.31(a)(4))

1. This assignment is for the patent application being filed simultaneously herewith:

Serial No.: 10/471,434  
Filed: September 10, 2003

OPR/FINANCE  
MAR -9 AM 7:15

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10\*  
(When using Express Mail, the Express Mail label number is mandatory;  
Express Mail certification is optional.)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

MAILING

\_\_\_ deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

\_\_\_ with sufficient postage as first class mail.

\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. § 1.10\*  
XXX as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee"  
Mailing Label No. EV 386940862 US

TRANSMISSION

\_\_\_ facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, (703) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

Date: March 9 2004

Luann McCormick

(type or print name of person certifying)

\* Only the date of filing (' 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under ' 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See ' 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (' 1.10) or facsimile transmission (' 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

03/11/2004 LNUJELLER 00000036 131992 10471434  
01 FC:0021 40.00 BA

**TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS AND/OR PATENTS  
AND TOTAL FEE**

2. A. The total number of applications and/or patents identified in this cover sheet is: **1**.
- B. The total fee is (37 C.F.R. Section 1.21(h)):

$$1 \times \$40.00 = \$40.00$$

- C. Payment of fee is made by:

Authorization is hereby made to charge the amount of \$40.00 to Deposit Account No. 13-1992.

Charge any additional fees required by this paper or credit any overpayment in the manner authorized above.

A duplicate of this paper is attached.

**NAME OF PARTIES CONVEYING INTEREST  
(37 C.F.R. § 3.31(a)(1))**

3. The parties conveying interest are:

Atsushi OGIHARA  
Hiroshi SAKAI  
Nobuo MATSUI  
Hidekazu MIYAZAKI

**NAME AND ADDRESS OF PARTY(IES) RECEIVING INTEREST  
(37 C.F.R. § (a)(2))**

4. The rights are being conveyed to:

Nippon Soda Co., Ltd.  
2-1, Ohtemachi 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo 100-0004 JAPAN

**DESCRIPTION OF INTEREST CONVEYED OR  
TRANSACTION RECORDED (37 C.F.R. § 3.31(a)(3))**

5. The accompanying document intends to accomplish an assignment.

**NAME AND ADDRESS OF PARTY TO WHOM  
CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE MAILED (37 C.F.R. § 3.31 (a)(5))**

6. Please address correspondence to:

Name: Dennis G. LaPointe  
Address: Mason Law, P.A.  
17757 US Hwy 19 North  
Suite 500  
Clearwater, FL 33764  
Telephone No.: 727-538-3800

**DATE ASSIGNMENT (DOCUMENT) EXECUTED  
(37 C.F.R. § 3.31(a)(7))**

7. The attached assignment (document) was executed by:

Atsushi OGIHARA on September 1, 2003  
Hiroshi SAKAI on September 1, 2003  
Nobuo MATSUI on September 1, 2003  
Hidekazu MIYAZAKI on September 1, 2003

**LANGUAGE OF ASSIGNMENT (DOCUMENT) TO BE RECORDED**

8. The attached document is in the English language.

**ORIGINAL DOCUMENT OR TRUE COPY SUBMITTED**

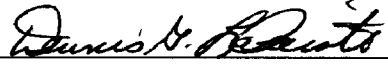
9. Submitted herewith is the original document.

**STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 3.31(a)(9)) AND  
SIGNATURE (37 C.F.R. § 3.31(a)(10))**

10. 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.

Date: 3-8-04

Reg. No.: 40693  
Tel. No.: 727-538-3800  
Customer No.: 24040

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Practitioner  
Dennis G. LaPointe  
Mason Law, P.A.  
17757 US Hwy 19 North  
Suite 500  
Clearwater, FL 33764

**TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES BEING SUBMITTED**

11. The total number of pages being submitted, **including documents** is: 7

1576c117.Assignment Coversheet.03082004.doc

Practitioner's Docket No. 1576.117

**PATENT**

For:  U.S. and/or  Foreign Rights  
For:  U.S. Application or  
 U.S. Provisional Application  
For:  U.S. Patent  
For:  PCT Application  
By: Multiple Inventors

**ASSIGNMENT OF INVENTION (MULTIPLE INVENTORS)**

In consideration of the payment by ASSIGNEE to ASSIGNOR of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and for other good and valuable consideration,

**ASSIGNORS (Inventors):**

Atsushi OGIHARA	75, Higashikamizeki, Takaoka-shi, Toyama, 933-0878 JAPAN
<i>(type or print name of inventors)</i>	Address <span style="float: right;">Nationality</span>
Hiroshi SAKAI	264, Kaihatsuhonmachi, Takaoka-shi, Toyama, 933-0909 JAPAN
Nobuo MATSUI	2-4, Yusyudaihigashi, Ichihara-shi, Chiba, 299-0124 JAPAN
Hidekazu MIYAZAKI	254, Kaihatsuhonmachi, Takaoka-shi, Toyama, 933-0909 JAPAN

hereby sells, assigns and transfers to

ASSIGNEE:  
**Nippon Soda Co., Ltd.**  
**2-1, Ohtemachi 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku**  
**Tokyo 100-0004 JAPAN**  
**Nationality: JAPAN**

(Assignment of Invention—Multiple Inventors—page 1 of 3)

and the successors, assigns and legal representatives of the ASSIGNEE

*(complete one of the following)*

the entire right, title and interest

and in all foreign countries, including all rights to claim priority, in and to any and all improvements which are disclosed in the invention entitled:

*(check and complete (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) or (g))*

and which is found in (37 C.F.R. section 3.21)

- (a)  U.S. patent application executed on even date herewith  
(b)  U.S. patent application executed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(c)  U.S. provisional application naming the above inventor(s) for the above-entitled invention.  
 Express mail label no.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_

To comply with 37 C.F.R. section 3.21 for recordal of this assignment, I, an ASSIGNOR signing below, hereby authorize and request my attorney to insert below the filing date and application number when they become known.

(d)  U.S. application no. / 10/471,434  
filed on September 10, 2003

(e)  International application no. PCT/ \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

(f)  U.S. patent no. \_\_\_\_\_ issued \_\_\_\_\_

A change of address to which correspondence is to be sent regarding patent maintenance fees is being sent separately.

*(also check (g), if foreign application(s) is also being assigned)*

(g)  and any legal equivalent thereof in a foreign country, including the right to claim priority

and, in and to, all Letters Patent to be obtained for said invention by the above application or any continuation, division, renewal, or substitute thereof, and as to letters patent any reissue or re-examination thereof.

ASSIGNOR hereby covenants that no assignment, sale, agreement or encumbrance has been or will be made or entered into which would conflict with this assignment.

ASSIGNOR further covenants that ASSIGNEE will, upon its request, be provided promptly with all pertinent facts and documents relating to said invention and said Letters Patent and legal equivalents as may be known and accessible to ASSIGNOR and will testify as to the same in any interference, litigation or proceeding related thereto and will promptly execute and deliver to ASSIGNEE or its legal representatives any and all papers, instruments or affidavits required to apply for, obtain, maintain, issue and enforce said application, said invention and said Letters Patent and said equivalents thereof which may be necessary or

(Assignment of Invention--Multiple Inventors--page 2 of 3)

desirable to carry out the purposes thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have hereunto set hand and seal this September 1, 2003  
Date of signing

*WARNING: The date of signing must be the same as the date of execution of the application, if item (a) was checked above.*

Atsushi OGIHARA  
(type name of Inventor)

Atsushi Ogihara  
Signature of INVENTOR

Hiroshi SAKAI

Hiroshi Sakai

Nobuo MATSUI

Nobuo Matsui

Hidekazu MIYAZAKI

Hidekazu Miyazaki

[ ] Notarization or Legalization Page Added.

*NOTE: No witnessing, notarization or legalization is necessary. If the assignment is notarized or legalized then it will only be prima facie evidence of execution. 35 U.S.C. section 261. Use next page if notarization is desired.*

(Assignment of Invention--Multiple Inventors--page 3 of 3)