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Please record

Copy thereof.

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1. Name of Party(ies) conveying an interest:

102707076

Name of Party(ies) receiving an interest:

Toshio MIKIYA
Koji MATSUMOTO

Name: Nitto Kohki Co., Ltd

Street Address: 9-4 Nakaikegami 2-chome
City/Prefecture: Ohta-ku, Tokyo
Country/Zip: Japan 146-8555

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

Additional name(s) and addresses attached?
 Yes No

17548 U.S. P.T.
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3. Description of the interest conveyed:

- Assignment Change of Name Other:
- Security Agreement Merger

Execution Date: March 1, 2004

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s). Additional sheet attached? Yes No

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is:
March 24, 2004
Date

A. Patent Application No.(s)

B. Patent No.(s)

10 808 067

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, IL 60610
(312)321-4200

6. Number of applications and patents involved: 1

- 7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) \$ 40
 - Enclosed
 - Authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 23-1925
- 8. Please charge any deficiencies in fee or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

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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.

Tadashi Horie Reg. No. 40,437
Name of Person Signing

Tadashi Horie
Signature

March 24, 2004
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 3

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ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, Toshio MIKIYA and Koji MATSUMOTO, hereinafter called the "Assignors", have made the invention described in the United States patent application entitled PIPE COUPLER, executed by Assignors on the same date as this Assignment;

WHEREAS, NITTO KOHKI CO.,LTD., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of JAPAN, having a place of business at 9-4, Nakaikegami 2-chome, Ohta-ku, Tokyo 146-8555 JAPAN, hereinafter called the "Assignee", desires to acquire the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention and the patent application identified above, and all patents which may be obtained for said invention, as set forth below;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), and other valuable and legally sufficient consideration, the receipt of which by the Assignors from the Assignee is hereby acknowledged, the Assignors have sold, assigned and transferred, and by these presents do sell, assign and transfer to the Assignee, the entire right, title and interest for the United States in and to the invention and the patent application identified above, and any patents that may issue for said invention in the United States; together with the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and all patent applications and patents therefor in all countries foreign to the United States, including the full right to claim for any such application all benefits and priority rights under any applicable convention; together with the entire right, title and interest in and to all continuations, divisions, renewals and extensions of any of the patent applications and patents defined above; to have and to hold for the sole and exclusive use and benefit of the Assignee, its successors and assigns, to the full end of the term or terms for all such patents.

The Assignors hereby covenant and agree, for both the Assignors and the Assignors' legal representatives, that the Assignors will assist the Assignee in the prosecution of the patent application identified above; in the making and prosecution of any other patent applications that the Assignee may elect to make covering the invention identified above; in vesting in the Assignee like exclusive title in and to all such other patent applications and patents; and in the prosecution of any interference which may arise involving said invention, or any such patent application or patent; and that the Assignors will execute and deliver to the

Assignee any and all additional papers which may be requested by the Assignee to carry out the terms of this Assignment.

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized and requested to issue patents to the Assignee in accordance with the terms of this Assignment.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the Assignors have executed this agreement.

DATE: March 1, 2004 Toshio Mikiya Toshio MIKIYA

WITNESSED:

DATE: March 1, 2004 Yasuhito Okura

DATE: March 1, 2004 Hajime Terada

DATE: March 1, 2004 Koji Matsumoto
Koji MATSUMOTO

WITNESSED:

DATE: March 1, 2004 Yasuhito Okura

DATE: March 1, 2004 Hajime Terada

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