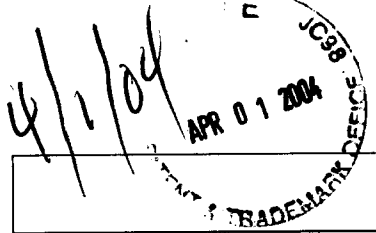


04-06-2004

Attorney Docket: 1232-5215



102713606

To The Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks:
Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

Form with 7 numbered sections: 1. Name of conveying party(ies); 2. Name and address of receiving party(ies); 3. Nature of conveyance; 4. Patent Application number(s) or Patent Number(s); 5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed; 6. Total number of applications involved; 7. Total fee.

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Name of Person Signing: Brian W. Brown, Reg. No. 47265; Signature: [Handwritten Signature]; Date: April 1, 2004

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JOINT
(AFTER APPLICATION FILED)

ASSIGNMENT OF PATENT RIGHTS FOR THE UNITED STATES

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, WE, Masato Muraki, Osamu Kamimura and Masaki Takakuwa

hereby sell, assign, transfer and convey unto **CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA**

a corporation of **JAPAN**

having a place of business at

3-30-2, Shimomaruko, Ohta-ku, Tokyo, Japan

its successors, assigns and legal representatives (hereinafter called the "Assignee"), the entire right, title and interest, for the United States, in and to certain inventions relating to

**CHARGED-PARTICLE-BEAM EXPOSURE APPARATUS AND
METHOD OF CONTROLLING SAME**

and described in an application for Letters Patent of the United States filed by us on **December 8, 2003**

and which has been accorded Application No. **10/730,814**


and in and to said application, and all divisions, and continuations thereof, and all Letters Patent of the United States which may be granted, thereon, and all reissues and extensions thereof; and we hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States to issue all Letters Patent upon said inventions to the Assignee or to such nominees as it may designate.

AND we authorize and empower the said Assignee or nominees to invoke and claim for any application for patent or other form of protection for said inventions filed by it or them, the benefit of the right or priority provided by the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, as amended, or by any convention which may henceforth be substituted for it, and to invoke and claim such right of priority without further written or oral authorization from us.

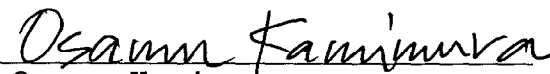
AND we hereby consent that a copy of this assignment shall be deemed a full legal and formal equivalent of any assignment, consent to file or like document which may be required in the United States for any purpose and more particularly in proof of the right of said Assignee or nominees to claim the aforesaid benefit of the right of priority provided by the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, as amended, or by any convention which may henceforth be substituted for it.

AND we hereby covenant that we have the full right to convey the entire right, title and interest herein assigned and that we have not executed and will not execute any agreement in conflict herewith.

AND we hereby covenant and agree that we will communicate to said Assignee or nominees all facts known to us pertaining to said inventions, and testify in all legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, execute all continuing and reissue applications, make all rightful oaths and declarations and in general perform all lawful acts necessary or proper to aid said Assignee or nominees in obtaining, maintaining and enforcing all lawful patent protection for said inventions in the United States.

By: 
Masato Muraki

Date: January 16, 2004

By: 
Osamu Kamimura

Date: January 23, 2004

By: 
Masaki Takakuwa

Date: January 29, 2004