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Docket No.: L7990.03104

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To the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):
Shinsuke TAKEGUCHI
Kazuhito HATOH
Hideo OHARA
Hisaaki GYOTEN
4.28.04

Additional names(s) of conveying party(ies) Yes No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):
Name: **Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.**
Internal Address: **1006, Oaza-Kadoma, Kadoma-shi**
Osaka 571-8501 JAPAN
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes No

3. Nature of conveyance:
 Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other _____
Execution Date: **January 27, 2004**

4. Application number(s) or patent numbers(s):
If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: _____
A. Patent Application No.(s)
10/752,223
B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:
Name: **James E. Ledbetter**
Internal Address: **L7990.03104**
Street Address: **Stevens, Davis, Miller & Mosher, LLP**
1615 L. Street, NW, Suite 850
City: **Washington** State: **DC** ZIP: **20036**

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: **1**
7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41):.....\$ **40.00**
 Enclosed - Any excess or insufficiency should be credited or debited to 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.
James E. Ledbetter, Reg. No. 28,732 *[Signature]* **April 28, 2004**
Name of Person Signing Signature Date

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

USA
ASSIGNMENT OF PATENT APPLICATION

- (1) Shinsuke TAKEGUCHI
- (2) Kazuhito HATOH
- (3) Hideo OHARA
- (4) Hisaaki GYOTEN

In consideration of the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration paid to each of the undersigned, the undersigned agree(s) to assign, and hereby does assign, transfer and set over to

- (6) Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.
- (6a) of 1006, Oaza-Kadoma, Kadoma-shi, Osaka 571-8501 Japan; and
- (7) _____
- (7a) of _____

(hereinafter designated as the Assignee) the entire rights, title and interest for the United States, its territories, dependencies and possessions, and for the country of

- (8) _____ in the invention, and all applications for patent and any Letters Patent which may be granted therefor, known as (insert title)

- (9) FUEL CELL, SEPARATOR PLATE FOR A FUEL CELL, AND METHOD OF OPERATION OF A FUEL CELL
(Case No. L7990.03104)

for which the undersigned has (have) executed on even date herewith an application for patent in the United States of America or, if not on even date, then has executed

- (10) on _____ or has already filed

- (11) U.S. appln. Serial No. 10/752,223, filed on January 7, 2004

- (12) The undersigned acknowledges an obligation of assignment of this invention to said assignee at the time the invention was made.

- 1) The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with the application and any continuing or divisional applications thereof and also to execute separate assignments in connection with such applications as the Assignee may deem necessary or expedient.
 - 2) The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with any interference which may be declared concerning this application or continuation or division thereof and to cooperate with the Assignee in every way possible in obtaining such evidence and going forward with such interference.
 - 3) The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers and documents and perform any act which may be necessary in connection with claims or provisions of the International Convention for Protection of Industrial Property or similar agreements.
 - 4) The undersigned agree(s) to perform all affirmative acts which may be necessary to obtain a grant of a valid United States patent to the Assignee.
 - 5) The undersigned hereby authorize(s) and request(s) the Commissioner of Patents to issue any and all Letters Patent of the United States resulting from said application or any division or divisions or continuing applications thereof to the said Assignee, as Assignee of the entire interest, and hereby covenants that he has (they have) full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that he has (they have) not executed and will not execute, any agreement in conflict herewith.
 - 6) The undersigned hereby grant(s) the firm of STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P. the power to insert on this assignment any further identification which may be necessary or desirable to comply with the rules of the United States Patent Office for recordation of this document.
- In witness whereof, executed by the undersigned on the date(s) opposite the undersigned signature(s).

Date January 27, 2004 Signature of Inventor (1) Shinsuke Takeguchi

Date January 27, 2004 Signature of Inventor (2) Kazuhito Hotoh

Date January 27, 2004 Signature of Inventor (3) Hideo Ohara

Date January 27, 2004 Signature of Inventor (4) Nisaaaki Gyoten