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<p>1. Name of conveying party(ies): Kenji YAMAMOTO and Toshiki SATO</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">S. 7. 04</p> <p>Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):</p> <p>Name: Kabushiki Kaisha Kobe Seiko Sho (Kobe Steel, Ltd.) Address: 10-26, Wakinohama-cho 2-chome, Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo 651-8585 Japan</p> <p>Additional name(s) and address(es) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>3. Nature of Conveyance:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment                      <input type="checkbox"/> Merger <input type="checkbox"/> Security Agreement              <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Name <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>Execution Date: December 1, 2003</p>	

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:

<p>A. Patent Application No.(s) 10/743,735</p>	<p>B. Patent No.(s)</p>
<p>Additional numbers attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	

<p>5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:</p> <p>Customer Number <b>22850</b></p> <p>Tel. (703) 413-3000 Fax. (703) 413-2220</p>	<p>6. Total applications and patents involved: 1</p> <p>7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41): \$40.00 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> Authorized to be charged to deposit account</p> <p>8. Deposit account number: 15-0030 (Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)</p>
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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.*

<p>C. Irvin McClelland Name of Person Signing</p>	<p><i>Joseph A. Scafetta Jr.</i> Signature</p>	<p><i>May 7, 2004</i> Date</p>
<p>Registration Number: 21,124                      Joseph A. Scafetta, Jr. Registration No. 26, 803</p> <p>Total number of pages including this cover sheet: 3</p>		

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**PATENT  
REEL: 015308 FRAME: 0439**

10/743,735

ASSIGNMENT OF APPLICANT

WHEREAS I (WE) Kenji YAMAMOTO, Toshiki SATO of c/o Kobe Corporate Research Laboratories in Kobe Steel, Ltd.5-5, Takatsukadai 1-chome, Nishi-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo 651-2271 Japan, respectively, have invented certain new and useful improvements in:

**Hard Film Excellent in Adhesion and Method of Producing thereof**

for which an application for Letters Patent was executed on December 1, 2003 (Application No. 10/743,735 filed December 24, 2003),and

WHEREAS, Kabushiki Kaisha Kobe Seiko Sho (Kobe Steel, Ltd.) having a place of business at: 10-26, Wakinohama-cho 2-chome, Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo 651-8585 Japan, (hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE") is/are desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to any Letters Patent that may be granted therefore in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of FIVE DOLLARS (\$5.00), the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, and for other good and valuable consideration, I (WE), by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto said ASSIGNEE, the full and exclusive right to the said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions and in all foreign countries and the entire right, title and interest in and to any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefore in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries and in and to any and all divisions, reissues, continuations, substitutions and renewals thereof.

I (WE) hereby authorize and request the Patent Office Officials in the United States and its territorial possessions and any and all foreign countries to issue any and all of said Letters Patent, when granted, to said ASSIGNEE as the assignee of my (our) entire right, title and interest in and to the same, for the sole use and behalf of said ASSIGNEE, its (his) successors and assigns, to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by me (us) had this Assignment and sale not been made.

Further, I (WE) agree that I (WE) will communicate to said ASSIGNEE or its (his) representatives any facts known to me (us) respecting said invention, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuation, substitute, renewal and reissue applications, execute all necessary assignment papers to cause any and all of said Letters Patent to be issued to said ASSIGNEE, make all rightful oaths, and generally do everything possible to aid said ASSIGNEE, its (his) successors and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper protection for said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries.

The undersigned hereby grant(s) the firm of OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. of 1940 DUKE STREETALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314U.S.A. the power to insert on this assignment any further identification, including the application number and filing date, which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document.

Date December 1, 2003

山本 兼司

Kenji YAMAMOTO

Date December 1, 2003

佐藤 俊樹

Toshiki SATO

Date

Date

Date

Date

Date

Date

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