

05-14-2004

Form PTO-1595 (Rev. 10/02) OMB No. 0651-0027 (exp. 6/30/ Tab settings



102744427

HEET U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Y Atty Docket: P03025US1A

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies): Francis J. Byrne 5-6-04 Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies) Name: Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC Internal Address:

3. Nature of conveyance: Assignment Merger Security Agreement Change of Name Other Execution Date: 4/30/2004

Street Address: 535 Marriott Drive, 9th Floor City: Nashville State: TN Zip: 37214 Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes No

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: 5/6/04 A. Patent Application No.(s) B. Patent No.(s) Additional numbers attached? Yes No

10840771

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed: Name: John M. Vasuta Internal Address: Bridgestone Americas Holding, Inc. Street Address: 1200 Firestone Parkway City: Akron State: OH Zip: 44317

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1 7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41): \$ 40.00 Enclosed Authorized to be charged to deposit account 8. Deposit account number: 06-0925

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

9. Signature. Michael R. Huber Name of Person Signing Signature Date 5/6/04

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

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to: Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments Washington, D.C. 20231

05/13/2004 DBYRNE 00000174 060925 10840771 01 FC:8021 40.00 DA

19270 U.S. PTO 10/840771 050604

ASSIGNMENT

I, **Francis J. Byrne**, have made an invention which now is described and claimed in an application for patent entitled **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ENHANCING TIRE TRACTION**, which application is being executed and filed concurrently herewith. was filed on _____ and now is designated as United States patent application number _____

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the obligations imposed by or arising under one or more of my employment agreement(s), advisor agreement(s), state or national statutes, common law, and administrative regulation, I hereby do make the following assignments –

To **BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE NORTH AMERICAN TIRE, LLC**, a corporation created and duly organized under the laws of the state of Delaware and having a place of business at 535 Marriott Drive, Nashville, Tennessee, 37214, USA, and its successors and assigns, I hereby

- > assign, transfer, and set over the full and exclusive right to the above-described invention and to the above-described application for letters patent of the United States as well as any substitute, continuation, continuation-in-part, or divisional application filed thereon, to any application for letters patent of the United States that claims priority from the above-described application, and to any letters patent of the United States that issues from such application(s) as well as any reissue application or request for reexamination filed on such letters patent;
- > covenant and agree for myself and my legal representative(s) to
 - a) assist said assignee and/or its designee(s), to the extent requested, in the prosecution of said application for patent, in any interference declared on said application for patent or patent issuing therefrom, or in litigation which arises out of or is based on said application for patent or patent issuing therefrom, and
 - b) execute all papers related to said application for patent which said assignee or its designee(s) request to be signed,

provided that expenses relating thereto shall be borne by said assignee; and


- > authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any letters patent of the United States relating to the above-described invention in the name of said assignee.

To **BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE NORTH AMERICAN TIRE, LLC**, a corporation created and duly organized under the laws of the state of Delaware and having a place of business at Nashville, Tennessee, and its successors and assigns, I hereby

- > assign, transfer, and set over the full and exclusive right to any application for letters patent filed in any regional or national patent office other than the United States Patent and Trademark Office which application claims priority from the above-described application;
- > covenant and agree for myself and my legal representative(s) to
 - a) assist said assignee and/or its designee(s), to the extent requested, in the prosecution of any such applications for patent or in litigation which arises out of or is based on said application(s) for patent or patent(s) issuing therefrom, and
 - b) execute all papers related to said application(s) for patent which said assignee or its designee(s) request to be signed,

provided that expenses relating thereto shall be borne by said assignee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed this document on the date next to my name.


Name: **Francis J. Byrne**

4/30/2004
Date

Other names included on additional sheet(s).