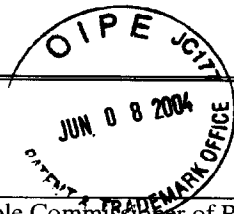


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Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?

☐ yes

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Execution Date: February 24, 2004

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:

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10/777,768

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☐ Yes

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

John H. Mion, Esquire
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
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Washington, D.C. 20037-3213

6. Total number of applications and registration involved:
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ASSIGNMENT

In consideration of the sum of One dollar (US\$ 1.00) in hand paid, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned,

- 1) BOULET Jean, Gilbert, a citizen, residing at:
3, rue Alexis Carrel
75015 PARIS
FRANCE

hereby sell, assign and transfer to:

S.M.F. INTERNATIONAL
7, Rue des Frères Lumière
58200 COSNE-SUR-LOIRE
FRANCE

(hereinafter called the Assignee) the entire right, title and interest in and to any and all improvements which are disclosed in the application for United States Letters Patent entitled

A DRILL STRING ELEMENT HAVING AT LEAST ONE BEARING ZONE, A DRILL STRING, AND A TOOL JOINT

- a) which application was executed by the undersigned on the day of

- b) filed on the 13th day of February 2004
Serial No. 10/177, 768

including any and all United States Letters Patent which may be granted therefor and any and all extensions, divisions, reissues, substitutes, renewals or continuations thereof, and the right to all benefits under the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial property.

It is hereby authorized and requested that the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks issue any and all said Letters Patent, when granted, to said Assignee.

Further, it is agreed that, when requested, without charge to but at the expense of said Assignee, the undersigned will execute all divisional, continuing, substitute, renewal, and reissue patent applications; execute all rightful other papers, and generally do everything possible which said Assignee shall consider desirable for aiding in securing and maintaining proper patent protection.

Signed at

this 24th day of February 2004
Inventor(s)

BOULET Jean, Gilbert

