

Form PTO-1595 (Rev. 09/04)  
OMB No. 0661-0027 (exp. 6/30/2005)

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**1. Name of conveying party(ies)/Execution Date(s):**

Kazuhiko Yamamoto (12/13/2004) and Takayuki Shibamoto (12/13/2004)

Execution Date(s): in parentheses after inventor name

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?  Yes  No

**2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)**

Name: SANTOKU CORPORATION

Internal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

14-34, Fukae-Kitamachi 4-chome, Higashinada-ku  
Hyogo, Kobe-Shi  
658-0013  
JAPAN

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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**3. Nature of Conveyance:**

- Assignment  Merger
- Security Agreement  Change of Name
- Government Interest Assignment
- Executive Order 9424, Confirmatory License
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**4. Application or patent number(s):**  This document is being filed together with a new application.

A. Patent Application No.(s)  
10/516,520 (U.S. National  
Phase of PCT/JP03/06740)

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

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

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**6. Total number of applications and patents involved:**

1

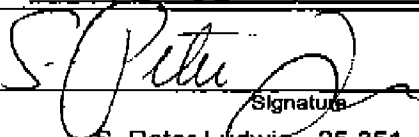
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S. Peter Ludwig - 25,351  
Name of Person Signing

December 28, 2004

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: 4

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (703) 306-5995, on the date shown below.

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CH \$40.00 040100 10516520

Docket No.:

**ASSIGNMENT BY INVENTORS (US ONLY)**

**THIS ASSIGNMENT**, made by 1) **Kazuhiko YAMAMOTO** and 2) **Takayuki SHIBAMOTO** (hereinafter referred to as Assignor(s)), residing at 1) 2-5-2-507, Shoufudai, Tarumi-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo 655-0871 JAPAN and 2) 114-2, Kumo-cho, Ono-shi, Hyogo 675-1337 JAPAN;

**WHEREAS**, Assignor(s) have invented certain new and useful improvements in **SYSTEM FOR PRODUCING ALLOY CONTAINING RARE EARTH METAL** set forth in a Patent application for which an Application was filed on May 29, 2003, under PCT Application No. PCT/JP03/06740 as an international application designating the U.S.

**WHEREAS, SANTOKU CORPORATION**, an organized corporation under and pursuant to the laws of Japan having its principal place of business at 14-34, Fukae-Kitamachi 4-chome, Higashinada-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo 658-0013 JAPAN (hereinafter referred to as Assignee), is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said inventions and said Application for Letters Patent of the United States, and in and to any Letters Patent of the United States to be obtained therefore and thereon

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and sufficient consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, Assignor(s) have sold, assigned, transferred and set over, and by these presents do sell, assign, transfer and set over, unto Assignee(s), its successors, legal representatives and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in and to the above-mentioned inventions and application for Letters Patent, and in and to any and all direct and indirect divisions, continuations and continuations-in-part of said application, and any and all Letters Patent in the United States which may be granted therefore and thereon, and reissues, reexaminations and extensions of said Letters Patent, the same to be held and enjoyed by Assignee(s), for its own use and benefit and the use and benefit of its successors, legal representatives and assigns, to the full end of the term or terms for

which Letters Patent may be granted and/or extended, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by Assignors, had this sale and assignment not been made.

**AND** for the same consideration, Assignor(s) hereby covenant and agree to and with Assignee(s), its successors, legal representatives and assigns, that Assignor(s) will sign all papers and documents, take all lawful oaths and do all acts necessary or required to be done for the procurement, maintenance, enforcement and defense of any Letters Patent and applications for Letters Patent for said inventions, without charge to Assignee(s), its successors, legal representatives and assigns, whenever counsel of Assignee(s), or counsel of its successors, legal representatives and assigns, shall advise: that any proceeding in connection with said inventions, or said Patent application for Letters Patent, or any proceeding in connection with any Letters Patent or applications for Letters Patent for said inventions including but not limited to interference proceedings, is lawful and desirable; or, that any division, continuation or continuation-in-part of any application for Letters Patent, or any reissue, reexamination or extension of any Letters Patent, to be obtained thereon, is lawful and desirable.

**AND** Assignor(s) hereby request the Director of Patents and Trademarks to issue said Letters Patent of the United States to Assignee(s), as Assignee(s) of said inventions and the Letters Patent to be issued thereon, for the sole use and benefit of Assignee(s), its successors, legal representatives and assigns.

**AND** Assignor(s) hereby grant the following individuals the power to insert on this Assignment any further identification 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:

## DARBY &amp; DARBY P.C.

Paul F. Fehlner	35,135	Joseph B. Lerch	26,936	Peter C. Schechter	31,662
Paul Fields	20,298	Bert J. Lewen	19,407	Henry Sternberg	22,408
Melvin C. Garner	26,272	Scott G. Lindvall	40,325	Robert C. Sullivan	30,499
Adda C. Gogoris	29,714	S. Peter Ludwig	25,351	Michael J. Sweedler	19,937
Marc S. Gross	19,614	Joseph R. Robinson	33,448	Pierre R. Yanney	35,418
David Leason	36,195	Robert Schaffer	31,194		

**AND** Assignor(s) acknowledge an obligation of assignment of this invention to Assignee at the time the invention was made.

Date: December 13, 2004

  
Name: Kazuhiko YAMAMOTO

Date: December 13, 2004

  
Name: Takayuki SHIBAMOTO