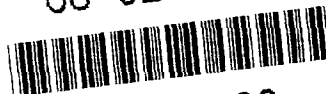


08-02-2004

Attorney Docket No.

Form PTO-1595

(Rev. 10-02)



102803289

U.S. Department of Commerce  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Tab settings ⇄ ⇄ ⇄

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies):  
Michael Sogard  
7-23-04  
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?  Yes  No.

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)  
Name: Nikon Corporation  
Internal Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
2-3 Marunouchi, 3-Chome, Chiyoda Ku  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: Tokyo Country: Japan ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional name(s) & address(es) attached?  Yes  No

3. Nature of conveyance:  
 Assignment  Merger  
 Security Agreement  Change of Name  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Execution Date: July 20, 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: July 20, 2004  
A. Patent Application No(s):  
B. Patent No(s):  
Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

10898475

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:  
Name: Peggy A. Su  
RITTER, LANG & KAPLAN LLP  
12930 Saratoga Avenue, Suite D1  
Saratoga, California 95070  
(408) 446-8690  
7/23/2004 MBIZUNES 00000056 10898475  
\$ 40.00 DP

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: 50-1652  
(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

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 of copy of the original document.*  
Peggy A. Su  
Name of Person Signing  
Atty. Reg. No. 41,336  
  
Signature  
July 23, 2004  
Date

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

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

PATENT  
REEL: 015614 FRAME: 0177

**ASSIGNMENT OF PATENT APPLICATION**  
(Accompanying Application)

Whereas I/we the undersigned inventor(s) have invented certain new and useful improvements as set forth in the patent application entitled:

**EXTREME ULTRAVIOLET RETICLE PROTECTION USING GAS FLOW  
THERMOPHORESIS**

(Atty. Docket No.: NRCAP028) for which I (we) have executed an application for a United States Letters Patent.

For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I/We the undersigned inventor(s) hereby:

- 1) Sell(s), assign(s) and transfer(s) to Nikon Corporation, a **Japanese** corporation having a place of business at 2-3 Marunouchi, 3-Chome, Chiyoda Ku, Tokyo 100-8331, Japan, (hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE"), the entire right title and interest in any and all improvements and inventions disclosed in, application(s) based upon, and Patent(s) (including foreign patents) granted upon the information which is disclosed in the above referenced application.
- 2) Authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents to issue any and all Letters Patents resulting from said application or any division(s), continuation(s), substitutes(s) or reissue(s) thereof to the ASSIGNEE.
- 3) Agree to execute all papers and documents and, entirely at the ASSIGNEE's expense, perform any acts which are reasonably necessary in connection with the prosecution of said application, as well as any derivative and applications thereof, foreign applications based thereon, and/or the enforcement of patents resulting from such applications.
- 4) Agree that the terms, covenants and conditions of this assignment shall inure to the benefit of the Assignee, its successors, assigns and other legal representative, and shall be binding upon the inventor(s), as well as the inventor's heirs, legal representatives and assigns.
- 5) Warrant and represent that I/we have not entered, and will not enter into any assignment, contract, or understanding that conflicts with this assignment.

1) Signature: Michael Sogard  
Typed Name: **MICHAEL SOGARD**

Date: 7/20/04