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Please record this

copy thereof.

1. Name of Party(ies) conveying an interest:

DANNY IGNACIO CASTILLO
ELLIOTT PAUL SMITHSON

9-27-04

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

2. Name and Address of Party(ies) receiving an interest:

Name:

BHP BILLITON INNOVATION PTY
LTD.

Internal Address:

BHP BILLITON CENTRE, 180
LONSDALE STREET,
MELBOURNE VIC 3000,
AUSTRALIA

Street Address:

City:

State/Zip:

Additional name(s) and addresses attached?

☐ Yes ☒ No

3. Description of the interest conveyed:

☒ Assignment☐ Change of Name

Other:

☐ Security Agreement☐ MergerExecution Date: **August 16, 2004; August 16, 2004**

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s).

5.

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is:

Date

A. Patent Application No.(s)

10/849,386 filed May 19, 2004

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

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

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, IL 60610
(312)321-42006. Number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41)

\$ **40.00**☒ Enclosed☐ Authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No.
23-19258. ☒ Please charge any deficiencies in fee or credit any
overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

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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.

G. Peter Nichols

Name of Person Signing

Signature

September 22, 2004

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 3

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, DANNY IGNACIO CASTILLO and ELLIOTT PAUL SMITHSON, hereinafter called the "Assignor", has made the invention described in the United States patent application entitled AIR DISTRIBUTOR FOR A BIOLEACHING SYSTEM, for a full description of which reference is here made to an application for Letters Patent of the United States filed on May 19, 2004 and assigned Application Serial No. 10/849,386;

WHEREAS, BHP BILLITON INNOVATION PTY LTD., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Australia, having a place of business at BHP BILLITON CENTRE, 180 LONSDALE STREET, MELBOURNE VIC 3000, AUSTRALIA, hereinafter called the "Assignee", desires to acquire the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention and the patent application identified above, and all patents which may be obtained for said invention, as set forth below;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), and other valuable and legally sufficient consideration, the receipt of which by the Assignor from the Assignee is hereby acknowledged, the Assignor has sold, assigned and transferred, and by these presents do sell, assign and transfer to the Assignee, the entire right, title and interest for the United States in and to the invention and the patent application identified above, and any patents that may issue for said invention in the United States; together with the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and all patent applications and patents therefor in all countries foreign to the United States, including the full right to claim for any such application all benefits and priority rights under any applicable convention; together with the entire right, title and interest in and to all continuations, divisions, renewals and extensions of any of the patent applications and patents defined above; to have and to hold for the sole and exclusive use and benefit of the Assignee, its successors and assigns, to the full end of the term or terms for all such patents.

The Assignor hereby covenants and agrees, for both the Assignor and the Assignor's legal representatives, that the Assignor will assist the Assignee in the prosecution of the patent application identified above; in the making and prosecution of

any other patent applications that the Assignee may elect to make covering the invention identified above; in vesting in the Assignee like exclusive title in and to all such other patent applications and patents; and in the prosecution of any interference which may arise involving said invention, or any such patent application or patent; and that the Assignor will execute and deliver to the Assignee any and all additional papers which may be requested by the Assignee to carry out the terms of this Assignment.

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized and requested to issue patents to the Assignee in accordance with the terms of this Assignment.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the Assignor has executed this agreement.

DATE:

15th August 2004


DANNY IGNACIO CASTILLO

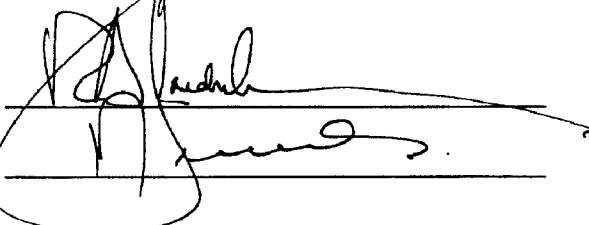
WITNESSED:

DATE:

16th August 2004

DATE:

16th Aug. 2004



DATE:

16th August 2004


ELLIOTT PAUL SMITHSON

WITNESSED:

DATE:

16 Aug 2004

DATE:

16 Aug. 2004

