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10/980758



102877653

Attorney Dkt. No.: 033499/269689

To the Director  
Please record this

1. Name of conveying party(ies):  
Richard Allen Eldridge  
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes  No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):  
The ESAB Group, Inc.  
P.O. Box 100545  
Florence, South Carolina 29501-0545  
Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes  No

22387 U.S. PTO  
10/980758  
110304

3. Nature of conveyance:  
 Assignment  
 Merger  
 Security Agreement  
 Change of Name  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Execution Date: August 16, 2004

4. Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_  
If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: August 16, 2004  
Additional numbers attached? Yes  No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:  
**ALSTON & BIRD LLP**  
Bank of America Plaza  
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000  
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000

6. Total number of applications and patents involved:  
One

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) \$40.00  
 Enclosed  
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account

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8. Deposit account number: 16-0605

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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.*  
  
Name of Person Signing: Nicholas F. Gallo  
Reg. No. 50,135  
November 3, 2004  
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 7

USPTO Fax Number for New Assignments (703) 306-5995

## ASSIGNMENT

THIS ASSIGNMENT, made by me, Richard Allen Eldridge, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at 920 Whitehall Circle, Florence, South Carolina 29501,

WITNESSETH: That,

WHEREAS, I am the sole inventor of certain new and useful improvements in SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DETERMINING AN OPERATIONAL CONDITION OF A TORCH for which an application for United States Letters Patent has been executed by me concurrently herewith,

WHEREAS, The ESAB Group, Inc., having a principal place of business at P.O. Box 100545, Florence, South Carolina 29501-0545, hereinafter referred to as assignee, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title, and interest in and to said invention as described in said application, and in and to any and all Letters Patent which shall be granted therefor in the United States of America and all foreign countries;

NOW, THEREFORE, To Whom It May Concern, be it known that for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I have sold and by these presents do hereby sell, assign, transfer, and convey unto the said assignee, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title, and interest in and to the said invention and application, and in and to any and all continuations, continuations-in-part, or divisions thereof, and in and to any and all Letters Patent of the United States of America and all foreign countries or reissues, reexaminations, or extensions thereof which may be granted therefor or thereon, for the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted, together with the right to claim the priority of said application in all foreign countries in accordance with the International Convention, the same to be held and enjoyed by said assignee, its successors and assigns, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by me if this assignment and sale had not been made.

I hereby request that said Letters Patent be issued in accordance with this assignment.

I further covenant and agree that, at the time of the execution and delivery of these presents, I possess full title to the invention and application above-mentioned, and that I have the unencumbered right and authority to make this assignment.

I further covenant, and agree to bind my heirs, legal representatives, and assigns, promptly to communicate to said assignee or its representatives any facts known to me relating to

said invention, to testify in any interference or legal proceedings involving said invention, to execute any additional papers which may be requested to confirm the right of the assignee, its representatives, successors, or assigns to secure patent or similar protection for the said invention in all countries and to vest in the assignee complete title to the said invention and Letters Patent, without further compensation, but at the expense of said assignee, its successors, assigns, and other legal representatives.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal on this 16TH day of AUGUST, 2004.

Richard A. Elderidge (SEAL)  
Richard Allen Elderidge

STATE OF South Carolina )  
COUNTY OF Florence )

I, Dorothy J. Sitzer, a Notary Public for said County and State, do hereby certify that Richard Allen Elderidge personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal, this the 16 day of August, 2004.

(Official Seal)

Dorothy J. Sitzer  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 8-20-2011

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