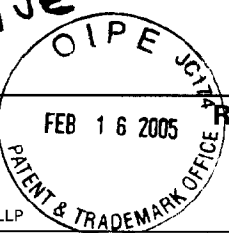

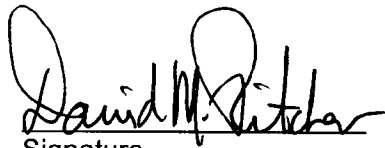


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# U.S. ASSIGNMENT

IN CONSIDERATION of the sum of One Dollar (\$ 1.00), and of other good and valuable consideration paid to the undersigned inventor(s) (hereinafter, "ASSIGNOR") by

*(Insert Name(s) & Address(es) of ASSIGNEE(S))*

National Institute of Information and Communications Technology

4-2-1, Nukui-Kitamachi, Koganei-shi, Tokyo 184-8795 Japan

(hereinafter, "ASSIGNEE"), the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned ASSIGNOR hereby sells, assigns and transfers to ASSIGNEE the entire and exclusive right, title and interest to the invention entitled

*(Title of Invention)*

QUESTION ANSWERING SYSTEM AND QUESTION ANSWERING PROCESSING METHOD

relating to International Patent Application PCT/JP\_\_\_/\_\_\_ and/or for which application for Letters Patent of the United States was executed on even date herewith or, if not so executed, was:

(a) executed on \_\_\_\_\_;

*(Insert date of execution of application, if not concurrent)*

(b) filed on \_\_\_\_\_

Serial No. \_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_;

*Any registered attorney of STAAS & HALSEY, 1201  
New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 700, Washington,  
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and to said application and all Letters Patent(s) of the United States granted on said application and any continuation, division, renewal, substitute, reissue or reexamination application based thereon, for the full term or terms for which the said Letters Patent(s) may be granted and including any extensions thereof (collectively, hereinafter, "said application(s) and Letters Patent(s)").

The ASSIGNOR agree(s), when requested by said ASSIGNEE and without charge to but at the expense of said ASSIGNEE, to do all acts which the ASSIGNEE may deem necessary, desirable or expedient, for securing, maintaining and enforcing protection for said invention, including in the preparation and prosecution of said application(s) and the issuance of said Letters Patent(s), in any interference, reissue, reexamination, or public use proceeding, and in any litigation or other legal proceeding which may arise or be declared in relation to same, such acts to include but not be limited to executing all papers, including separate assignments and declarations, taking all rightful oaths, providing sworn testimony, and obtaining and producing evidence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned inventor(s) has (have) affixed his/her/their signature(s).

*(Typed Name & Signature of Inventor(s))*

*(Date)*

*(Typed Name & Signature of Witness(es))*

1) Masaki Murata

May 14, 2004

**Masaki MURATA**

2) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

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