

PATENT ASSIGNMENT

Electronic Version v1.1
 Stylesheet Version v1.1

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| SUBMISSION TYPE: | NEW ASSIGNMENT |
| NATURE OF CONVEYANCE: | MERGER |
| EFFECTIVE DATE: | 02/25/2004 |

CONVEYING PARTY DATA

| Name | Execution Date |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Mineral Solutions Inc. | 02/26/2004 |

RECEIVING PARTY DATA

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Name: | Lafarge North America Inc. |
| Street Address: | 12950 Worldgate Drive |
| Internal Address: | Suite 500 |
| City: | Herndon |
| State/Country: | VIRGINIA |
| Postal Code: | 20170 |

PROPERTY NUMBERS Total: 1

| Property Type | Number |
|----------------|---------|
| Patent Number: | 5766338 |

CORRESPONDENCE DATA

Fax Number: (703)796-2217
Correspondence will be sent via US Mail when the fax attempt is unsuccessful.
 Phone: 703 480-3688
 Email: pam.melvin@lafarge-na.com
 Correspondent Name: Pam Melvin
 Address Line 1: 12950 Worldgate Drive
 Address Line 2: Suite 500
 Address Line 4: Herndon, VIRGINIA 20170

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|--------------------|---------------------|
| NAME OF SUBMITTER: | L. Philip McClendon |
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Total Attachments: 3
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OP \$40.00 5766338

CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP AND MERGER

of

MINERAL SOLUTIONS INC.
(a Delaware corporation)

into

LAFARGE NORTH AMERICA INC.
(a Maryland corporation)

It is hereby certified that:

1. Lafarge North America Inc. (hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "Corporation") is a business corporation of the State of Maryland.

2. The Corporation is the owner of all of the outstanding shares of stock of Mineral Solutions Inc., which is a business corporation of the State of Delaware.

3. The laws of the jurisdiction of organization of the Corporation permit the merger of a business corporation of that jurisdiction with a business corporation of another jurisdiction.

4. The Corporation hereby merges Mineral Solutions Inc. into the Corporation.

5. The Corporation does hereby agree that it may be served with process in the State of Delaware in any proceeding for enforcement of any obligation of Mineral Solutions Inc., as well as for enforcement of any obligation of this Corporation arising from the merger herein provided for; does hereby irrevocably appoint the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as its agent to accept service of process in any such proceeding; and does hereby specify the following address without the State of Delaware to which a copy of such process shall be mailed by the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware:

12950 Worldgate Drive, Suite 500
Herndon, VA 20170

6. The following is a copy of the resolutions adopted on February 5, 2004 by the Board of Directors of the Corporation to merge the said Mineral Solutions Inc. into the Corporation:

WHEREAS, the officers of the Corporation have proposed that Mineral Solutions Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Corporation, be merged with and into the Corporation; and

WHEREAS, this Board of Directors deems it advisable and in the best interest of the Corporation and its stockholders to approve the merger of Mineral Solutions with and into the Corporation in accordance with the laws of the State of Maryland, the Corporation's jurisdiction of incorporation, and the laws of the State of Delaware, Mineral Solutions' jurisdiction of incorporation, and to authorize the proper officers of the Corporation to take such actions as may be necessary to permit the Corporation to effect the merger;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the merger of Mineral Solutions with and into the Corporation in accordance with Section 3-106 of the Maryland General Corporation Law and Section 253 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, substantially as described in the materials previously furnished to each member of the Board of Directors, is hereby approved in all respects.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that, upon effectiveness of the merger of Mineral Solutions with and into the Corporation, each issued and outstanding share of the capital stock of Mineral Solutions shall, without further act, be cancelled.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the President, any Vice President, the Secretary or any Assistant Secretary of the Corporation (the "Designated Officers"), and each of them, acting in conjunction with the proper officers of Mineral Solutions to the extent appropriate, are hereby authorized, in the name and on behalf of the Corporation, to prepare, execute and file, or cause to be prepared, executed and filed, with the appropriate officials of the State of Delaware, a Certificate of Merger setting forth the terms and conditions of the merger with and into the Corporation, in accordance with Section 253 of the Delaware General Corporation Law.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Designated Officers, and each of them, acting in conjunction with the proper officers of Mineral Solutions to the extent appropriate, are hereby authorized, in the name and on behalf of the Corporation, to prepare, execute and file, or cause to be prepared, executed and filed, with the appropriate officials of the State of Maryland, Articles of Merger meeting the requirements of Section 3-106 of the Maryland General Corporation Law setting forth the terms and conditions of the merger of Mineral Solutions with and into the Corporation.


RESOLVED FURTHER, that the proper officers of the Corporation are hereby authorized and instructed to take such actions, in the name and on behalf of the Corporation, as may be necessary or appropriate to permit the Corporation to assume all of the rights, powers and obligations of Mineral Solutions, under Mineral Solutions' contracts and other agreements.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the proper officers of the Corporation, and each of them, are hereby authorized to take any and all actions and to execute, deliver and file, or cause to be executed, delivered and filed, any and all agreements, certificates, letters, documents, consents, notices or other writings that such officers may deem necessary, appropriate or desirable, acting upon the advice of counsel where appropriate, to effect the

merger of Mineral Solutions with and into the Corporation and to otherwise accomplish the purposes and carry out the intent of the foregoing resolutions.

Executed on February 26, 2004

LAFARGE NORTH AMERICA INC.

By: 
L. Philip McClendon
Senior Vice President, General Counsel
and Secretary

DE BC D-CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP AND MERGER S>P D>F 07/98-5 (#454)