

6/20/05

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COVER SHEET

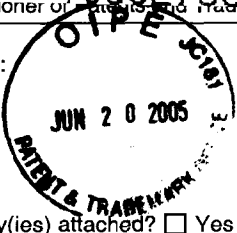
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
HDP Docket No. 9539-000129
Express Mail Label No. EV 570 164 557 US (6/20/2005)

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies):
Paul J. Valente



Additional name of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: American Axle & Manufacturing, Inc.

Internal Address:

Street Address: One Dauch Drive

City: Detroit State: MI Zip: 48211

Additional Name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes No

3. Nature of conveyance:

- Assignment Merger
- Security Agreement Change of Name
- Other _____

Execution Date: 06/16/05

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: 1

A. Patent Application No.(s)
11/116,068

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

Name: Philip E. Rettig

Internal Address: Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.

Street Address: P.O. Box 828

City: Bloomfield Hills State: MI Zip: 48303

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. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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 copy of the original document.

Philip E. Rettig
Name of Person Signing

Signature

June 20, 2005
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: 5

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:

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PATENT
REEL: 016708 FRAME: 0013

ASSIGNMENT

Atty. Docket No. 9539-000129

The undersigned, hereinafter referred to collectively as Assignor, has an interest in the invention entitled:

AXLESHAFT RETENTION ASSEMBLY FOR DIFFERENTIALS AND METHOD OF ASSEMBLY

which is the subject of a United States or International application for patent

- (a) executed on even date preparatory to filing (each inventor should sign this Assignment on the same day as he/she signs the Declaration and Power of Attorney);
- (b) executed on _____, _____, _____;
- (c) filed on 04/27/05, and assigned Serial No. 11/116,068 or PCT International Application No. _____;
- (d) U.S. Patent No. _____, issued _____, and
 presently assigned as evidenced at Reel _____, Frame _____; or
- (e) entitled above and naming the undersigned inventors in this provisional patent application; and

American Axle & Manufacturing, Inc., hereinafter referred to as Assignee, is desirous of acquiring Assignor's interest therein:

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy whereof is hereby acknowledged, Assignor by these presents does sell, assign and transfer unto Assignee and its successors in interest, the full and exclusive right, title and interest in the United States of America and all foreign countries, including the right to claim priority under the laws of the United States, the Paris Convention, and any foreign countries, to the said invention as described in the aforesaid application, said application for patent and all Letters Patent therefor to be held and enjoyed by Assignee to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent are granted and any extensions thereof as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by Assignor had this assignment and sale not been made, and the right to recover for past infringements of, or liabilities for, any of the rights relating to any of said applications or patents resulting therefrom;

Assignor hereby covenants and agrees to execute all instruments or documents required or requested for the making and prosecution of any applications of any type for patent in the United States and in all foreign countries including, but not limited to, any provisional, continuation, continuation-in-part, divisional, renewal or substitute thereof, and as to letters patent any reissue, re-examination, or extension thereof, and for litigation regarding, or for the purpose of protecting title and to the said invention, the United States application for patent, or Letters Patent therefor, and to testify in support thereof, for the benefit of Assignee without further or other compensation than that above set forth;

Assignor hereby covenants that no assignment, sale or agreement or encumbrance has been or will be entered into which would conflict with this Assignment; and

Assignor hereby requests the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue said Letters Patent of the United States of America to Assignee, and requests that any official of any country or countries foreign to the United States, whose duty it is to issue or grant patents and applications as aforesaid, to issue said Letters Patent, Utility Model Registration or Inventor's Certificate to Assignee.

Assignor hereby authorizes an attorney authorized to prosecute this patent application to insert here in parentheses (Application No. _____, filed _____) the filing date and application number of said application when known.

ASSIGNMENT

P. J. Valente
First Inventor or Assignor: Paul J. Valente

State of *Michigan*)
County of *Wayne*) ss.

On this *16th* day of *June*, 20*05*, before me personally appeared the foregoing individual, who executed the foregoing instrument and who acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same of his/her own free will for the purposes therein set forth.

J. Suckkaut
Notary Public,

(seal)

MACOMB County, State of *Michigan*

My Commission Expires: *08/25/05*

Acting in the County of *Wayne*