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1. Name of conveying party(ies)

Tsunao HOMBO

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

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA

Internal Address: _____

Street Address: 3-30-2, Shimomaruko

City: Ohta-ku

State: Tokyo

Country: JAPAN

Zip: _____

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

3. Nature of conveyance/Execution Date(s):

Execution Date(s) June 20, 2005

- Assignment Merger
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4. Application or patent number(s):

This document is being filed together with a new application.

A. Patent Application No.(s)

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

Name: ROSSI, KIMMS & McDOWELL LLP

Internal Address: _____

Street Address: P.O. BOX 826

City: ASHBURN

State: VA

Zip: 20146-0826

Phone Number: 703-726-6020

Fax Number: 703-726-6024

Email Address: mail@RKMLegalGroup.com

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 1.21(h) & 3.41) \$ 40

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9. Signature:

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Marc A. Rossi

Name of Person Signing

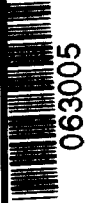
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ASSIGNMENT

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, I, **Tsunao HOMBO**
citizen of **Japan**

hereby sell, assign, transfer and convey unto **CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA**

a corporation of **Japan**

having a place of business at **3-30-2, Shimomaruko, Ohta-ku, Tokyo, Japan**

its successors, assigns and legal representatives (hereinafter called the "Assignee"), the entire right, title, and interest, for all countries, in and to certain inventions relating to

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and described in an application for Letters Patent of the United States which is filed concurrently herewith and was executed by me in and to said application, and all divisions, renewals and continuations thereof, and all Letters Patent of the United States which may be granted thereon, and all reissues and extensions thereof, and all applications for Letters Patent or other grants of protection of proprietary rights including, but not limited to, inventor's certificate, utility model, utility certificate, patent of importation, registration of patent and industrial design registration which may be filed, and which may be granted, upon said inventions in any countries or regions foreign to the United States, and all reissues, renewals and extensions thereof; and I hereby authorize and request the Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks of the United States, and all officials of countries or regions foreign to the United States having authority to do so, to issue all such Letters Patent or other grants of protection upon said inventions to the Assignee or to such nominees as it may designate.

AND I authorize and empower the said Assignee or nominees to invoke and claim for any application for such Letters Patent or other grants of protection for said inventions filed by it or them, the benefit of the right of priority provided by the international Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, as amended, or by a convention which may henceforth be substituted for it, and to invoke and claim such right of priority without further written or oral authorization from me.

AND I hereby consent that a copy of this assignment shall be deemed a full and formal equivalent of any assignment, consent to file or like document which may be required in any country or region for any purpose and more particularly in proof of the right of the said Assignee or nominees to claim the aforesaid benefit of the right of priority provided by the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, as amended, or by any convention which may henceforth be substituted for it.

AND I hereby covenant that I have the full right to convey the entire right, title and interest herein assigned and that I have not executed and will not execute any agreement in conflict herewith.

AND I hereby covenant and agree that I will communicate to said Assignee or nominees all facts known to me pertaining to said inventions, and testify in all legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuing and reissue applications, make all rightful oaths and declarations and in general perform all lawful acts necessary or proper to aid said Assignee or nominees in obtaining, maintaining, and enforcing all lawful patent or other grants of protection of said inventions in any and all countries and regions.

By: Tsunao Hombo
Tsunao HOMBO

Date: June 20, 2005