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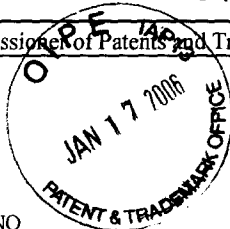
FORM PTO-1595 (modified)

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Name: MIKUNI CORPORATION

Street Address: 13-11, Sotokanda 6-chome, Chiyoda-ku,  
Tokyo, 101-0021 Japan

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3. Nature of conveyance:

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Execution Date: December 21, 2005

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:

A. Patent Application No.(s)  
11/291,986, filed December 2, 2005

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? NO

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

Name: WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P.  
Attn: Nils E. Pedersen, Esq.

Street Address: 2033 K Street, N.W., Suite 800

City: Washington, State: DC ZIP: 20006-1021

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41). . . . . \$40.00

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Nils E. Pedersen, Reg. No. 33,145  
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January 17, 2006  
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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 2005-1869A

PATENT  
REEL: 017456 FRAME: 0869

# ASSIGNMENT

In consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration paid to each of the undersigned

Insert Name(s)  
of Inventor(s)

Norio TAKEHANA  
Noriaki CHIBA  
Hideki IMAMATSU

the undersigned hereby sell(s) and assign(s) to

Insert Name(s)  
of Assignee(s)

MIKUNI CORPORATION

Address

of 13-11, Sotokanda 6-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 101-0021 Japan

(hereinafter designated as the Assignee) the entire right, title and interest for the United States as defined in 35 USC 100, in the invention known as

Title of  
Invention

VALVE APPARATUS

for which an application for patent in the United States has been executed by the undersigned

Date of  
Signing  
of Application

on \_\_\_\_\_

The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with this application and any continuing, divisional or reissue applications thereof and also to execute separate assignments in connection with such applications as the Assignee may deem necessary or expedient.

The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with any interference which may be declared concerning this application or continuation, division or reissue thereof and to cooperate with the Assignee in every way possible in obtaining evidence and going forward with such interference.

The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers and documents and perform any act which may be necessary in connection with claims or provisions of the International Convention for Protection of Industrial Property or similar agreements.

The undersigned agree(s) to perform all affirmative acts which may be necessary to obtain a grant of a valid United States patent to the Assignee.

The undersigned hereby authorize(s) and request(s) the Commissioner of Patents to issue any and all Letters Patents of the United States resulting from said application or any division or divisions or continuing or reissue applications thereof to the said Assignee, as Assignee of the entire interest, and hereby covenants that he has (they have) full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that he has (they have) not executed, and will not execute, any agreement in conflict herewith.

The undersigned hereby grant(s) the firm of WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P., 2033 K Street, N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20006-1021, the power to insert on this assignment any further identification which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the United States Patent Office for recordation of this document.

In witness whereof, executed by the undersigned on the date(s) opposite the undersigned name(s).

Date December 21, 2005, Name of the Inventor Norio Takehana  
 Norio TAKEHANA

Date December 21, 2005, Name of the Inventor Noriaki Chiba  
 Noriaki CHIBA

Date December 21, 2005, Name of the Inventor Hideki Imomatsu  
 Hideki IMAMATSU

Date \_\_\_\_\_, Name of the Inventor \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_, Name of the Inventor \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_, Name of the Inventor \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_, Name of the Inventor \_\_\_\_\_

(This assignment should preferably be acknowledged before a United States Consul. If not, then the execution by the Inventor(s) should be witnessed by at least two witnesses who sign here.)

Witness [Signature]

Witness [Signature]

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

\_\_\_\_\_ }  
 \_\_\_\_\_ } ss

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, before me personally came the above-named me personally known as the individual(s) who executed the foregoing assignment, who did acknowledge to me that he (they) executed the same of his (their) own free will for the purposes therein set forth.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Official Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Official Title

SEAL

The above application may be more particularly identified as follows:

U.S. Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ Filing Date December 2, 2005

Applicant Reference Number 453US Atty Docket No. 2005-1869A

Title of Invention VALVE APPARATUS