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To the Director of the U.S. Patent

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

WATANABE, Kazutoyo  
SUWABE, Hirohisa

103162831

HITACHI METALS, LTD.  
2-1, Shibaura 1-chome,  
Minato-ku, Tokyo Japan

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

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- Assignment  Merger
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- Other

Execution Date: January 10, 2006

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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: January 10, 2006

A. Patent Application No.(s)

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

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

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
WASHINGTON OFFICE  
23373  
CUSTOMER NUMBER

6. Total number of applications and patents involved:

1

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

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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.

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### Assignment

Whereas, I/We, Kazutoyo WATANABE, and Hirohisa SUWABE, of Fukuoka-ken, Japan; Tochigi-ken, Japan;

hereinafter called assignor(s), have invented certain improvements in

CERAMIC HONEYCOMB FILTER AND ITS PRODUCTION METHOD

and executed an application for Letters Patent of the United States of America therefor on January 10, 2006; and

Whereas,

HITACHI METALS, LTD.

2-1 Shibaura 1-chome

Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan

(assignee), desires to acquire the entire right, title, and interest in the application and invention, and to any United States patents to be obtained therefor;

Now therefore, for valuable consideration, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged,

I/We, the above named assignor(s), hereby sell, assign and transfer to the above named assignee, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in the application and the invention disclosed therein for the United States of America, including the right to claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §119, and I/we request the Director – U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to issue any Letters Patent granted upon the invention set forth in the application to the assignee, its successors and assigns; and I/we will execute without further consideration all papers deemed necessary by the assignee in connection with the United States application when called upon to do so by the assignee.

I/We hereby authorize and request our attorneys SUGHRUE MION, PLLC of 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20037-3213 to insert here in parentheses (Application number \_\_\_\_\_ and Confirmation number \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_) the filing date and application number of said application when known.

Date: January 10, 2006 Kazutoyo Watanabe  
s/ Kazutoyo WATANABE

Date: January 10, 2006 Hirohisa Suwabe  
s/ Hirohisa SUWABE

(Legalization not required for recording but is prima facie evidence of execution under 35 U.S.C. §261)