

To the Director, U.S. Patent and Trade

inal documents or copy thereof.



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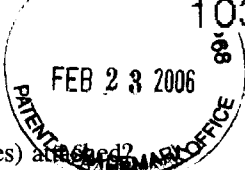
1. Name of conveying party(ies):

HIDETOMO SOHMA

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?

Yes No

2-23-06



Name of receiving party(ies):

Name: CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA

Foreign Address: 3-30-2, Shimomaruko, Ohta-ku

Tokyo, Japan

3. Nature of conveyance:

Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other

Execution Date: November 17, 2005

Domestic Address:

City: State ZIP

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

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 Number: 11/275,062
Filing Date: December 7, 2005

B. Title of Invention:
SEARCH SYSTEM, INFORMATION PROCESSING
APPARATUS, CONTROL METHOD THEREFOR,
AND PROGRAM

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

Name: Fitzpatrick, Cella, Harper & Scinto

30 Rockefeller Plaza

New York, New York 10112-3800

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Facsimile No.: (212) 218-2200

6. Number of applications and patents involved:

One

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

Enclosed
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number (for deficiency or excess)

06-1205

(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account):

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9. Statement and signature.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and the attached is the original document or is a true copy of the original document.

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John D. Magluyan, Reg. No. 56,867

Name of Person Signing

John D. Magluyan
Signature

February 22, 2006

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: 3

SOLE
(BEFORE APPLICATION FILED)

ASSIGNMENT

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, I **Hidetomo Sohma**

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

**SEARCH SYSTEM, INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS,
CONTROL METHOD THEREFOR, AND PROGRAM**

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.

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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: Hidetomo Sohma
Hidetomo Sohma

Date: November 17, 2005