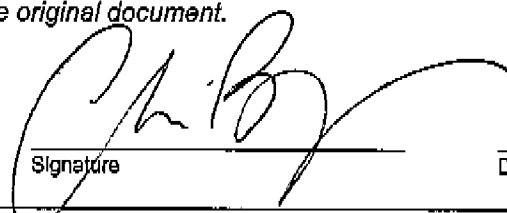


Substitute Form PTO-1595  
Attorney Docket No.: 18239-016002  
Client's Ref. No.: 10023.2

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4. Application number(s) or patent number(s): If this document is being filed with a new application, the execution date of the application is: A. Patent Application No(s): B. Patent No(s): 7,027,237 Additional numbers attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
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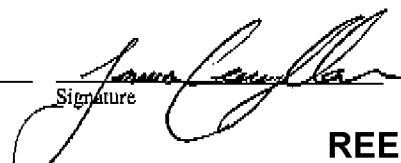
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#### CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below.

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## ASSIGNMENT

041109

FACTOR & LAKE, LTD.  
1327 W. Washington Boulevard  
Suite 5G/H  
Chicago, Illinois 60607  
(312) 226-1818

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the following inventor or inventors (hereinafter called "ASSIGNOR")

Birgit Kurz, Zeppelinstra 69, D-73430  
Toralf Gruner, Opalstr. 22, D-73433 Aalen  
Alexander Kohl, Karlsplatz 24, D-73433

Aalen, a citizen of Germany  
; a citizen of Germany  
Aalen, a citizen of Germany

hereby assigns, transfers and sets over to:

Carl Zeiss SMT AG  
Carl-Zeiss-Str. 22  
D-73447 Oberkochen  
DE

(hereinafter called "ASSIGNEE"), the entire worldwide right, title and interest in and to the invention known as:

Method for optimizing the imaging characteristics of at least two optical elements and photolithographic productions process

for which a United States Patent Application was filed on: 4-13-04  
S/N 10/709,098

and all rights and privileges under any Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, including all rights, if any, throughout the entire world to sue for all past infringements which may have occurred before the execution of this assignment.

(1) The ASSIGNOR(s) agrees without charge to said ASSIGNEE but at its expense (a) to execute (i) all necessary papers to be used in connection with this application and any additional, continuing, or divisional applications, as the ASSIGNEE may deem necessary or expedient, (ii) all papers in connection with any interference or other legal or quasilegal proceedings relating to this application or any additional, continuing, or divisional application thereof, (iii) all papers and documents which may be necessary in connection with the preparation and filing of any foreign applications or with making claims to priority rights granted under the provisions of the International Convention for Protection of Industrial Property or similar agreements; (b) to cooperate with ASSIGNEE in every way possible in obtaining evidence and going forward in any such proceedings;

and (c) to perform all other affirmative acts which may be necessary or desirable to obtain a grant of a valid patent for said invention in any country throughout the world.

(2) ASSIGNOR(s) hereby authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents of the United States, and the appropriate officials in any other country, to issue any and all Letters Patent that may be granted upon any patent application or any additional, continuing or divisional applications thereof to the ASSIGNEE, its successors and assigns.

(3) ASSIGNOR(s) hereby covenants and warrants that they have full right to convey the entire right, title and interest by this instrument, free of any encumbrances and that no other agreement has been or will be executed in conflict herewith.

(4) ASSIGNOR(s) hereby grants to the law firm of FACTOR & LAKE of Chicago, Illinois, authority and power to insert on this instrument any further identification which may be necessary or desirable for purposes of recordation in the United States Patent Office or the Patent Office of any foreign country.

ASSIGNOR(s)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2004

Name of Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Birgit Mecking

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2004

Name of Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Toralf Gruner

Date: July 22, 2004

Name of Inventor: Alexander Kohl  
Alexander Kohl

## ASSIGNMENT

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 Suite 5G/H  
 Chicago, Illinois 60607  
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 Toralf Gruner, Opalstr. 22, D-73433 Aalen  
 Alexander Kohl, Karlsplatz 24, D-73433

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ASSIGNOR(s)

Date: August 31, 2004

Name of Inventor: Birgit Kürz  
Birgit Meeking Kürz

Date: July 27, 2004

Name of Inventor: Toralf Gruner  
Toralf Gruner

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2004

Name of Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alexander Kohl