

PATENT ASSIGNMENT

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| SUBMISSION TYPE: | NEW ASSIGNMENT |
| NATURE OF CONVEYANCE: | RELEASE BY SECURED PARTY |
| CONVEYING PARTY DATA | |
| Name | Execution Date |
| BANK OF THE WEST | 09/21/2006 |
| RECEIVING PARTY DATA | |
| Name: | ARETE ASSOCIATES |
| Street Address: | 5000 VAN NUYS BLVD. |
| City: | SHERMAN OAKS |
| State/Country: | CALIFORNIA |
| Postal Code: | 91403 |
| PROPERTY NUMBERS Total: 1 | |
| Property Type | Number |
| Application Number: | 10161061 |
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| Total Attachments: 2 source=Security Release#page1.tif source=Security Release#page2.tif | |

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RELEASE OF SECURITY INTEREST (Patents)

THIS RELEASE OF SECURITY AGREEMENT (Patents) (the "Release") is made and dated this 21st day of September, 2006 by BANK OF THE WEST (the "Lender").

Pursuant to that certain Security Agreement (Patents) dated as of December 12, 2003 (the "Patent Security Agreement") between the Lender and Areté Associates, a California corporation (the "Borrower"), the Borrower granted a security interest to the Lender in certain patents to secure obligations of the Borrower to the Lender under the Credit Agreement dated as of December 12, 2003 between the Borrower and the Lender (as amended, extended and replaced from time to time, the "Credit Agreement"). The Patent Security Agreement was recorded with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on March 30, 2004 on Reel/Frame 014468/0895.

At the request of the Borrower, the Lender has agreed to release its security interest in the Patent described on Schedule 1 to this Release, and, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, the Lender releases and relinquishes any security interest in the Patent described on Schedule 1 to this Release.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Lender has caused this Release of Security Interest (Patents) to be executed on and as of the day and year first above written.

BANK OF THE WEST, as Administrative Agent

By: 

Name: Jason Horstman
Title: Vice President

SCHEDULE I

TO RELEASE OF SECURITY INTEREST (PATENTS)

| Title | Issue Date or Filing Date | Authors | Registration or Application Number |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Application "Misfolded protein sensor Method in body fluids."-Prior | Filed May 30, 2002 | Orser, Grosset, Davidson | Application Number 10/161,061 |