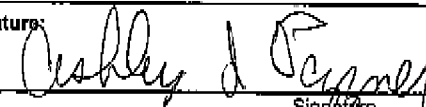


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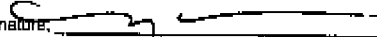
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To the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: Please record the attached documents or the new address(es) below.

<p>1. Name of conveying party(ies): Knud REUTER (9-28-06), Friedrich ZELL (10-26-06), and Martina EBNER (10-25-06)</p> <p>Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)</p> <p>Name: <u>H. C. Starck GmbH</u></p> <p>Internal Address: _____</p> <p>Street Address: _____</p> <p>Im Schleeke 78-91</p> <p>City: <u>Goslar</u></p> <p>State: _____</p> <p>Country: <u>Germany</u> Zip: <u>38642</u></p> <p>Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>3. Nature of conveyance/Execution Date(s):</p> <p>Execution Date(s): <u>in parentheses after inventor name</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment <input type="checkbox"/> Merger <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Name</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Security Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Research Agreement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Government Interest Assignment</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Executive Order 9424, Confirmatory License</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>	<p>4. Application or patent number(s): <input type="checkbox"/> This document is being filed together with a new application.</p> <p>A. Patent Application No.(s) <u>11/509,157</u></p> <p>B. Patent No.(s)</p> <p>Additional numbers attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>5. Name and address to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:</p> <p>Name: <u>Ashley I. Pezzner</u> <u>CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP</u></p> <p>Internal Address: <u>Atty. Dkt.: 13077-00013-US</u></p> <p>Street Address: <u>1007 North Orange Street</u> <u>P.O. Box 2207</u></p> <p>City: <u>Wilmington</u></p> <p>State: <u>DE</u> Zip: <u>19899</u></p> <p>Phone Number: <u>(302) 658-9141</u></p> <p>Fax Number: <u>(302) 658-5614</u></p> <p>Email Address: <u>apezzner@cblh.com</u></p>	<p>6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1</p> <p>7. Total fee (37 CFR 1.21(h) & 3.41) \$ <u>40.00</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Authorized to be charged by credit card</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Authorized to be charged to deposit account</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> None required (government interest not affecting title)</p> <p>8. Payment Information</p> <p>a. Credit Card Last 4 Numbers _____ Expiration Date _____</p> <p>b. Deposit Account Number <u>03-2775</u> Authorized User Name <u>Ashley I. Pezzner</u></p>
<p>9. Signature:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Signature</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>11/15/06</u> Date</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ashley I. Pezzner - 35,646</u> Name of Person Signing</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: </p>	

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Dated: 11-15-06 Signature:  (Yvonne C. Steiner)

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Assignment

For valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged,

- We, 1. **Knud REUTER**
of Thorn-Prikker-Str.9, 47800 Krefeld, Germany
2. **Friedrich ZELL**
of Hardtstr. 37, 79618 Rheinfelden, Germany
3. **Martina EBNER**
of Ortsteinstr. 13, 79730 Murg, Germany

hereby sell, assign, and transfer unto H.C. Starck GmbH a corporation of Germany, located at Im Schleeke 78-91, 38642 Goslar, Germany the entire right, title, and interest in and to our application for Letters Patent of the United States, ~~executed concurrently herewith~~, entitled

Process for the preparation of high-purity zirconium, hafnium, tantalum and niobium alkoxides
Serial No. 11/509,157 Filing Date: August 24, 2006

and our entire right, title, and interest in and to all our inventions, whether joint or sole, disclosed in said application for Letters Patent, and in and to all divisional or continuation applications that may be filed for United States Letters Patent for any of said inventions, and in and to all patents that may be granted on the foregoing applications, and we hereby agree, whenever requested, to communicate to said assignee, its successors and assigns, any facts known to us respecting said inventions and to execute all applications or papers necessary to obtain and maintain proper patent protection on said inventions in the United States.

Date/Datum

- 2006-09-28
X 2006-10-26
X 2006-10-25

Inventors/Erfinder

1. Knud Reuter
2. Friedrich Zell
3. Martina Ebner