

**PATENT ASSIGNMENT**

Electronic Version v1.1  
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<b>SUBMISSION TYPE:</b>	NEW ASSIGNMENT
<b>NATURE OF CONVEYANCE:</b>	ASSIGNMENT
<b>CONVEYING PARTY DATA</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Execution Date</b>
David Antony Ballard	06/07/2007
<b>RECEIVING PARTY DATA</b>	
<b>Name:</b>	M-I L.L.C.
<b>Street Address:</b>	5950 North Course Drive
<b>City:</b>	Houston
<b>State/Country:</b>	TEXAS
<b>Postal Code:</b>	77072
<b>PROPERTY NUMBERS Total: 1</b>	
<b>Property Type</b>	<b>Number</b>
Application Number:	11760486
<b>CORRESPONDENCE DATA</b>	
<b>Fax Number:</b>	(713)228-8778
<i>Correspondence will be sent via US Mail when the fax attempt is unsuccessful.</i>	
<b>Phone:</b>	713-228-8600
<b>Email:</b>	sharris@oshaliang.com
<b>Correspondent Name:</b>	Jeffrey S. Bergman
<b>Address Line 1:</b>	1221 McKinney Street Suite 2800
<b>Address Line 4:</b>	Houston, TEXAS 77010
<b>ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER:</b>	5542.108002
<b>NAME OF SUBMITTER:</b>	Staci V. Harris
<b>Total Attachments: 2</b>	
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**OP \$40.00 11760486**

## ASSIGNMENT – WORLDWIDE

For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the undersigned individual(s) (referred to herein as the "INVENTOR(S)") hereby assign, transfer, and set over to:

**M-I.L.L.C.**

having the following address:

**5950 North Course Drive, Houston, TX 77072**

(referred to herein as "COMPANY"), its successors, and assigns, the entire right, title, and interest, worldwide, in and to the invention known by the following title:

### **SURFACTANT MATERIALS AND COATINGS FOR WEIGHTING AGENTS FOR USE IN OIL BASED DRILLING FLUIDS**

for which the undersigned has/have executed an application for patent in the United States of America on or about this same day, together with said patent application, all divisions, continuations, continuations-in-part, reissues, and extensions thereof, and all Letters Patent (domestic and foreign) that may be granted therefor. Such interest represents the entire ownership of said applications and Letters Patent when granted and is to be owned by COMPANY, its successors, and assigns, or their legal representatives, for the full and entire term for which such Letters Patent may be granted or extended, as fully and entirely as the same would have been enjoyed by the INVENTOR(S) if this assignment had not been made.

In addition, the undersigned INVENTOR(S) each hereby agrees:

1. To sign and execute any further documents that may be necessary or desirable, lawful, and proper in connection with the prosecution of all applications for patent(s) on the INVENTION in the United States, including without limitation said application and all divisions, continuations, continuations-in-part, amendments thereof, and all interference proceedings associated therewith, or otherwise necessary or desirable to secure the title thereto to COMPANY;
2. To execute all papers and documents and to perform all lawful acts that may be necessary in connection with claims to priority or otherwise under the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property or similar treaties or agreements;
3. To perform all lawful affirmative acts that may be necessary to obtain the grant of valid and enforceable patents to COMPANY.

The undersigned INVENTOR(S) each hereby authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks in the United States to issue any and all Letters Patent resulting from said application, including without limitation any division, continuation, continuation-in-part, or reissue thereof to COMPANY.

The undersigned INVENTOR(S) each hereby grants to the firm of OSHA•LIANG L.L.P. the power to insert on this Assignment any further identification that may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for the recordation of this document.

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**OSHA•LIANG LLP**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Assignment has been executed by each of the undersigned individuals on the date appearing by such individual's signature:

7/06/07                      1<sup>st</sup> Inventor Signature: [Signature]  
Date                              Print or Type Name: David Antony Ballard

Before me personally appeared: David Antony Ballard  
Inventor

each of whom acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be a free act and deed and also represented that he/she is authorized to execute this Assignment.

Dated: June 7, 2007                      [Signature]  
Witness

When this Assignment is not filed concurrently with the patent application, the following identifying information may be added after execution:  
U.S. Application Serial No.: 11/760,486  
Filing Date: June 8, 2007

ASSIGNMENT – WORLDWIDE

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OSHA LIANG LLP