

Client/Matter No. 13313/3 (FF 40266/07)

RECORDATION FORM COVER SHEET PATENTS ONLY

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

1. Name of conveying Party(ies)/Execution Date:

Houyuan Liu
Alexey Duarte
Wolf Meihack
Ivan P. Ratchev

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

Yes No

2. Name and Address of receiving Party(ies):

BHP Billiton SSM Technology Pty Ltd.
Level 33, Central Park,
152-158 St. Georges Terrace,
Perth, Western Australia 6000
Australia

Additional name(s) and addresses attached? Yes No

3. Nature of Conveyance:

Execution Date(s): **Inventor Liu:** May 21, 2007; **Inventor Duarte:** April 5, 2007;
Inventor Meihack: July 26, 2007; **Inventor Ratchev:** May 16, 2007

- Assignment
- Change of Name
- Executive Order 9424, Confirmatory License
- Security Agreement
- Merger
- Joint Research Agreement
- Government Interest Assignment
- Other

4. Application or patent number(s).

This document is being filed together with a new application.

A. Patent Application No.(s)

B. Patent No.(s)

U.S. Serial No. 11/687,256 filed March 16, 2007

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, IL 60610
(312) 321-4200
(312) 321-4299 Fax

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

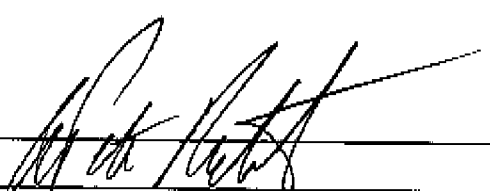
7. Total fee (37 CFR 1.21(h) & 3.41) \$ 40.00

- Authorized to be charged by credit card.
- Authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.
- Enclosed
- None required (government interest not affecting title)

8. Payment Information:

- a. Credit Card: Last 4 Numbers
Expiration Date
- b. Charge fee and/or any Deficiencies to Deposit
Account Number: 23-1925
Authorized User Name: Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione

9. Signature:



Date: August 16, 2007

G. Peter Nichols
Name of Person Signing

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: 10

Documents to be recorded (including cover sheet) should be faxed to (571) 273-0140, or mailed to:
Mail Stop Assignment Recordation Services, Director of the USPTO, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CH \$40.00 231925 11687256

UNITED STATES FF40266/07

Case No. FF40266/07**ASSIGNMENT**

WHEREAS, Houyuan Liu, Alexey Duarte, Wolf Meihack and, Ivan P. Ratchev, hereinafter called the "Assignors", have made the invention described in the United States patent application entitled Production of Ferro-Nickel or Nickel Matte by a Combined Hydrometallurgical and Pyrometallurgical Process, for a full description of which reference is here made to an application for Letters Patent of the United States filed on March 16, 2007 and assigned Application Serial No. 11/687,256;

WHEREAS, BHP Billiton SSM Technology Pty Ltd., a company organized and existing under the laws of Australia, having a place of business at Level 33, Central Park, 152-158 St. Georges Terrace, Perth, Western Australia 6000, Australia, hereinafter called the "Assignee", desires to acquire the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention and the patent application identified above, and all patents which may be obtained for said invention, as set forth below;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), and other valuable and legally sufficient consideration, the receipt of which by the Assignors from the Assignee is hereby acknowledged, the Assignors have sold, assigned and transferred, and by these presents do sell, assign and transfer to the Assignee, the entire right, title and interest for the United States in and to the invention and the patent application identified above, and any patents that may issue for said invention in the United States; together with the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and all patent applications and patents therefor in all countries foreign to the United States, including the full right to claim for any such application all benefits and priority rights under any applicable convention; together with the entire right, title and interest in and to all continuations, divisions, renewals and extensions of any of the patent applications and patents defined above; together with the right to recover all damages, including, but not limited to, a reasonable royalty, by reason of past, present, or future infringement or any other violation of patent or patent application rights; to have and to hold for the sole and exclusive use and benefit of the Assignee, its successors and assigns, to the full end of the term or terms for all such patents.

FF40266/07

The Assignors hereby covenant and agree, for both the Assignors and the Assignors' legal representatives, that the Assignors will assist the Assignee in the prosecution of the patent application identified above; in the making and prosecution of any other patent applications that the Assignee may elect to make covering the invention identified above; in vesting in the Assignee like exclusive title in and to all such other patent applications and patents; and in the prosecution of any interference which may arise involving said invention, or any such patent application or patent; and that the Assignors will execute and deliver to the Assignee any and all additional papers which may be requested by the Assignee to carry out the terms of this Assignment.

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized and requested to issue patents to the Assignee in accordance with the terms of this Assignment.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the Assignors have executed this agreement.

DATE:	<u>May 21, 2007</u>	<u>Houyuan Liu</u> Houyuan Liu
WITNESSED:		
DATE:	<u>21 May 2007</u>	<u>Susanne ROUET</u> Susanne ROUET
DATE:	<u>21 May 2007</u>	<u>Grant Mascini</u> Grant MASCINI
DATE:	_____	_____
WITNESSED:		Alexey Duarte
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	_____	_____

FF40266/07

DATE:	_____	_____
WITNESSED:	_____	Wolf Meihack
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	_____	_____
WITNESSED:	_____	Ivan P. Ratchev
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	_____	_____

UNITED STATES FF40266/07

ASSIGNMENTCase No. FF40266/07

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FF40266/07

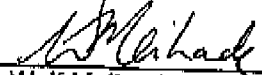

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DATE:	_____	_____
WITNESSED:	_____	Houyuan Liu
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	05.04.07	_____
WITNESSED:	<i>R. L. ...</i>	Alexey Duarte 05.04.07
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	_____	_____

FF40286/07

DATE:	<u>26-07-07</u>	<u></u>
WITNESSED:	<u></u>	Wolf Meinhack
DATE:	<u>26-07-07</u>	
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	_____	_____
WITNESSED:		Ivan P. Ratchev
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	_____	_____

UNITED STATES FF40266/07

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PATENT
REEL: 019715 FRAME: 0458

FF40266/07

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DATE:	_____	_____
WITNESSED:		Houyuan Liu
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	_____	_____
WITNESSED:		Alexey Duarte
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	_____	_____

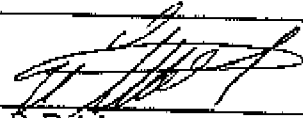
FF40266/07

DATE: _____


WITNESSED: _____ Wolf Meihack

DATE: _____

DATE: _____

DATE: 16 MAY, 2007 _____ 

WITNESSED: _____ Ivan P. Ratchev

DATE: 16th May, 2007 _____ 

DATE: 17th May 2007 _____ 