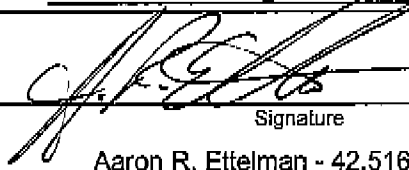


Form PTO-1595 (Rev. 08/05)
OMB No. 0651-0027 (exp. 6/30/2008)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office**RECORDATION FORM COVER SHEET
PATENTS ONLY**

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): Karsten Beck (04/03/2008), Hady Seyeda (04/04/2008), Udo Sulkowski (04/15/2008), and Axel Rosenkranz (04/15/2008) Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	2. Name and address of receiving party(ies) Name: <u>H. C. Starck GmbH</u> Internal Address: _____ Street Address: _____ <u>Im Schleeke 78-91</u> City: <u>Goslar</u> State: _____ Country: <u>Germany</u> Zip: <u>38642</u> Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
3. Nature of conveyance/Execution Date(s): Execution Date(s): <u>in parentheses after inventor name</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment <input type="checkbox"/> Merger <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Name <input type="checkbox"/> Security Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Research Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Government Interest Assignment <input type="checkbox"/> Executive Order 9424, Confirmatory License <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	4. Application or patent number(s): <input type="checkbox"/> This document is being filed together with a new application. A. Patent Application No.(s) <u>12/088,558</u> B. Patent No.(s) Additional numbers attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
5. Name and address to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed: Name: <u>Aaron R. Ettelman</u> <u>CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP</u> Internal Address: <u>Atty. Dkt.: 13077*354 (STA 277-US)</u> Street Address: <u>1007 North Orange Street</u> <u>P. O. Box 2207</u> City: <u>Wilmington</u> State: <u>DE</u> Zip: <u>19899-2207</u> Phone Number: <u>(302) 658-9141</u> Fax Number: <u>(302) 658-5614</u> Email Address: <u>aettelman@cblh.com</u>	6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1 7. Total fee (37 CFR 1.21(h) & 3.41) \$ <u>40.00</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Authorized to be charged by credit card <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Authorized to be charged to deposit account <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> None required (government interest not affecting title)
8. Payment Information a. Credit Card Last 4 Numbers _____ Expiration Date _____ b. Deposit Account Number <u>03-2775</u> Authorized User Name <u>Aaron R. Ettelman</u>	
9. Signature: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  Signature <u>Aaron R. Ettelman - 42,516</u> Name of Person Signing </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <u>April 17, 2008</u> Date </div> </div> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;"> Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: 7 </div>	

CH \$40.00 032775 12088558

ASSIGNMENT BY INVENTORS

THIS ASSIGNMENT, made by Karsten Beck; Hady Seyeda; Udo Sulkowski; and Axel Rosenkranz (hereinafter referred to as Assignors), residing at Am Heiligen Grabe 4, 38640 Goslar, GERMANY; Doktorbusch 25, 38640 Goslar, GERMANY; Breslauer Str. 8, 38690 Vienenburg, GERMANY; and Kreisstr. 16, 38667 Bad Harzburg, GERMANY, respectively;

WHEREAS, Assignors have invented certain new and useful improvements in NIOBIUM COMPOUND, set forth in a Patent application for which an International Application was filed on September 16, 2006, PCT/EP2006/009041, designating the United States; and

WHEREAS, H. C. Starck GmbH, a Corporation organized under and pursuant to the laws of Germany having its principal place of business at Im Schleeke 78-91, 38642 Goslar, GERMANY (hereinafter referred to as Assignee), is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said inventions and said Application for Letters Patent of the United States, and in and to any Letters Patent of the United States to be obtained therefore and thereon.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and sufficient consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, Assignors have sold, assigned, transferred and set over, and by these presents do sell, assign, transfer and set over, unto Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in and to the above-mentioned inventions and application for Letters Patent, and in and to any and all direct and indirect divisions, continuations and continuations-in-part of said application, and any and all Letters Patent in the United States and all foreign countries which may be granted therefore and thereon, and reissues, reexaminations and extensions of said Letters Patent, and all rights under the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, the same to be held and enjoyed by Assignee, for its own use and benefit and the use and benefit of its successors, legal representatives and assigns, to the full end of the term or terms for which Letters Patent may be granted and/or extended, as fully and entirely as the

same would have been held and enjoyed by Assignors, had this sale and assignment not been made.

AND for the same consideration, Assignors hereby represent and warrant to Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, that, at the time of execution and delivery of these presents, except for any rights, titles and/or interests that have arisen to Assignee under law or that have already been transferred to Assignee, Assignors are the sole and lawful owners of the entire right, title and interest in and to the said inventions and application for Letters Patent above-mentioned, and that the same are unencumbered and that Assignors have good and full right and lawful authority to sell and convey the same in the manner herein set forth.

AND for the same consideration, Assignors hereby covenant and agree to and with Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, that Assignors will sign all papers and documents, take all lawful oaths and do all acts necessary or required to be done for the procurement, maintenance, enforcement and defense of any Letters Patent and applications for Letters Patent for said inventions, without charge to Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, whenever counsel of Assignee, or counsel of its successors, legal representatives and assigns, shall advise: that any proceeding in connection with said inventions, or said Patent application for Letters Patent, or any proceeding in connection with any Letters Patent or applications for Letters Patent for said inventions in any country, including but not limited to interference proceedings, is lawful and desirable; or, that any division, continuation or continuation-in-part of any application for Letters Patent, or any reissue, reexamination or extension of any Letters Patent, to be obtained thereon, is lawful and desirable.

AND Assignors hereby request the Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks to issue said Letters Patent of the United States to Assignee, as Assignee of said inventions and the Letters Patent to be issued thereon, for the sole use and benefit of Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns.

AND Assignors hereby grant the following individuals the power to insert on this Assignment any further identification which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply

with the rules of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document:

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

All practitioners at Customer Number 23416

AND Assignors acknowledge an obligation of assignment of this invention to Assignee at the time the invention was made.

Date: _____ Signature: _____
Karsten Beck

Date: 04.04.2008 Signature: Hady Seyeda
Hady Seyeda

Date: 15.04.2008 Signature: U. Sulkowski
Udo Sulkowski

Date: 15.04.08 Signature: Axel Rosenkranz
Axel Rosenkranz

ASSIGNMENT BY INVENTORS

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same would have been held and enjoyed by Assignors, had this sale and assignment not been made.

AND for the same consideration, Assignors hereby represent and warrant to Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, that, at the time of execution and delivery of these presents, except for any rights, titles and/or interests that have arisen to Assignee under law or that have already been transferred to Assignee, Assignors are the sole and lawful owners of the entire right, title and interest in and to the said inventions and application for Letters Patent above-mentioned, and that the same are unencumbered and that Assignors have good and full right and lawful authority to sell and convey the same in the manner herein set forth.

AND for the same consideration, Assignors hereby covenant and agree to and with Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, that Assignors will sign all papers and documents, take all lawful oaths and do all acts necessary or required to be done for the procurement, maintenance, enforcement and defense of any Letters Patent and applications for Letters Patent for said inventions, without charge to Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, whenever counsel of Assignee, or counsel of its successors, legal representatives and assigns, shall advise: that any proceeding in connection with said inventions, or said Patent application for Letters Patent, or any proceeding in connection with any Letters Patent or applications for Letters Patent for said inventions in any country, including but not limited to interference proceedings, is lawful and desirable; or, that any division, continuation or continuation-in-part of any application for Letters Patent, or any reissue, reexamination or extension of any Letters Patent, to be obtained thereon, is lawful and desirable.

AND Assignors hereby request the Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks to issue said Letters Patent of the United States to Assignee, as Assignee of said inventions and the Letters Patent to be issued thereon, for the sole use and benefit of Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns.

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CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

All practitioners at Customer Number 23416

AND Assignors acknowledge an obligation of assignment of this invention to Assignee at the time the invention was made.

Date: 3. April 2008

Signature: _____

Karsten Beck

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Hady Seyeda

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Udo Sulkowski

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Axel Rosenkranz