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07-14-2000



101402792

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECORDATION FORM COVER SHEET

TRADEMARKS ONLY

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks:

Please record the attached original document or copy thereof.

1. Name and address of conveying party:

Bliss & Laughlin, LLC
281 East 155th Street
Harvey, IL

A Delaware limited liability company

2. Name and address of receiving party:

Fleet National Bank, as Agent
100 Federal Street
Boston, MA 02110

A national banking association

3. Nature of conveyance: Trademark Collateral Security and Pledge Agreement

Execution date: May 26, 2000

4. Registration numbers:

See Schedule A attached hereto.

07/13/2000 DNGUYEN 00000010 736665

01 FC:481
02 FC:482

40.00 OP
100.00 OP

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

Lucas Rogers, Esq.
Bingham Dana LLP
150 Federal Street
Boston, MA 02110

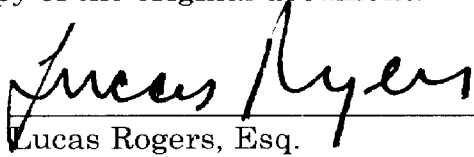
6. Total number of applications and trademarks involved: 5

7. Total fee enclosed: \$140.00

8. Deposit account number: Not applicable

9. Statement and signature:

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.



Lucas Rogers, Esq.
June 6, 2000

Total number of pages submitted (including cover sheet and any attached Schedules, and conveyance document and any attached Schedules): 23

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Office of Public Records
Customer Service Counter
1213 Jefferson Davis Highway, 3rd Floor
Arlington, VA 22202

SCHEDULE A

Trademarks and Trademark Registrations

U.S. TRADEMARKS:

Trademark or <u>Service Mark</u>	Registrations -- United States Patent and Trademark Office	
	<u>Registration No.</u>	<u>Registration Date</u>
B&L	736,665	8/28/62
STRAIN TEMPERED	800,051	12/7/65
FIRE-BAR	1,783,841	7/27/93
FIRE-BAR ASTM A-311	1,786,467	10/10/93
BL	1,776,238	6/15/93

**TRADEMARK COLLATERAL
SECURITY AND PLEDGE AGREEMENT**

BLISS & LAUGHLIN, LLC

TRADEMARK COLLATERAL SECURITY AND PLEDGE AGREEMENT dated as of May 26, 2000 (the "Trademark Agreement"), between **BLISS & LAUGHLIN, LLC**, a Delaware limited liability company having its principal place of business at 281 East 155th Street, Harvey, IL, (the "Assignor"), and **FLEET NATIONAL BANK** (f/k/a BANKBOSTON, N.A.), a national banking association having an office at 100 Federal Street, Boston, MA 02110, as administrative agent (hereinafter, in such capacity, the "Agent") for itself and other lending institutions (hereinafter, collectively, the "Banks") which are, or may in the future become, parties to a Revolving Credit Agreement dated as of August 13, 1999 (as amended and in effect from time to time, the "Credit Agreement"), among the Assignor, Republic Technologies International, LLC (the "Borrower"), the Banks, the Agent and the other parties thereto.

WHEREAS, the Assignor has guaranteed the Obligations of the Borrower pursuant to the Credit Agreement (such guaranty referred to herein as the "Guaranty");

WHEREAS, the Assignor wishes to secure the payment and performance of the Obligations (including, without limitation, its obligations in respect of the Guaranty) pursuant hereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises contained herein and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS.

Capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined herein shall have the respective meanings provided therefor in the Credit Agreement. In addition, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth in this §1 or elsewhere in this Trademark Agreement referred to below:

Assignment of Marks. See §2.3.

Associated Goodwill. All goodwill of the Assignor and its business, products and services appurtenant to, associated with or symbolized by the Trademarks and the use thereof.

Obligations. The "Obligations", as such term is defined in the Credit Agreement, including, without limitation, the Assignor's obligations in respect of the Guaranty.

Pledged Trademarks. All of the Assignor's right, title and interest in and to all of the Trademarks, the Trademark Registrations, the Trademark License Rights,

the Trademark Rights, the Associated Goodwill, the Related Assets, and all accessions to, substitutions for, replacements of, and all proceeds of any and all of the foregoing.

PTO. The United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Related Assets. All assets, rights and interests of the Assignor that uniquely reflect or embody the Associated Goodwill, (other than any assets, rights and interests of a type in which the Agent does not otherwise have a security interest pursuant to the Domestic Security Agreement) including the following:

(a) all patents, inventions, copyrights, trade secrets, confidential information, formulae, methods or processes, compounds, recipes, know-how, methods and operating systems, drawings, descriptions, formulations, manufacturing and production and delivery procedures, quality control procedures, product and service specifications, catalogs, price lists, and advertising materials, relating to the manufacture, production, delivery, provision and sale of goods or services under or in association with any of the Trademarks; and

(b) the following documents and things, if any, in the possession or under the control of the Assignor, or subject to its demand for possession or control, related to the production, delivery, provision and sale by the Assignor, or any affiliate, franchisee, licensee or contractor, of products or services sold by or under the authority of the Assignor in connection with the Trademarks or Trademark Rights, whether prior to, on or subsequent to the date hereof:

(i) all lists, contracts, ancillary documents and other information that identify, describe or provide information with respect to any customers, dealers or distributors of the Assignor, its affiliates or franchisees or licensees or contractors, for products or services sold under or in connection with the Trademarks or Trademark Rights, including all lists and documents containing information regarding each customer's, dealer's or distributor's name and address, credit, payment, discount, delivery and other sale terms, and history, pattern and total of purchases by brand, product, style, size and quantity;

(ii) all agreements (including franchise agreements), product and service specification documents and operating, production and quality control manuals relating to or used in the design, manufacture, production, delivery, provision and sale of products or services under or in connection with the Trademarks or Trademark Rights;

(iii) all documents and agreements relating to the identity and locations of all sources of supply, all terms of purchase and delivery, for all materials, components, raw materials and other

supplies and services used in the manufacture, production, provision, delivery and sale of products or services under or in connection with the Trademarks or Trademark Rights; and

(iv) all agreements and documents constituting or concerning the present or future, current or proposed advertising and promotion by the Assignor (or any of its affiliates, franchisees, licensees or contractors) of products or services sold under or in connection with the Trademarks or Trademark Rights.

Trademark Agreement. This Trademark Collateral Security and Pledge Agreement, as amended and in effect from time to time.

Trademark License Rights. Any and all past, present or future rights and interests of the Assignor pursuant to any and all past, present and future franchising or licensing agreements in favor of the Assignor, or to which the Assignor is a party, pertaining to any Trademarks, Trademark Registrations, or Trademark Rights owned or used by third parties in the past, present or future, including the right (but not the obligation) in the name of the Assignor or the Agent after the occurrence of an Event of Default to enforce, and sue and recover for, any breach or violation of any such agreement to which the Assignor is a party.

Trademark Registrations. All past, present or future federal, state and foreign registrations of the Trademarks, all past, present and future applications for any such registrations (and any such registrations thereof upon approval of such applications), together with the right (but not the obligation) to apply for such registrations (and prosecute such applications) in the name of the Assignor or the Agent after the occurrence of an Event of Default, and to take any and all actions necessary or appropriate to maintain such registrations in effect and renew and extend such registrations.

Trademark Rights. Any and all past, present or future rights in, to and associated with the Trademarks throughout the world, whether arising under federal law, state law, common law, foreign law or otherwise, including the following: all such rights arising out of or associated with the Trademark Registrations; the right (but not the obligation) to register claims under any state, federal or foreign trademark law or regulation; the right (but not the obligation) to sue or bring opposition or cancellation proceedings in the name of the Assignor or the Agent after the occurrence of an Event of Default for any and all past, present and future infringements or dilution of or any other damages or injury to the Trademarks, the Trademark Rights, or the Associated Goodwill, and the rights to damages or profits due or accrued arising out of or in connection with any such past, present or future infringement, dilution, damage or injury; and the Trademark License Rights.

Trademarks. All of the trademarks, service marks, designs, logos, indicia, trade names, corporate names, company names, business names, fictitious business names, trade styles, elements of package or trade dress, and other source and

product or service identifiers, used or associated with or appurtenant to the products, services and businesses of the Assignor, that (i) are set forth on Schedule A hereto, or (ii) have been adopted, acquired, owned, held or used by the Assignor or are now owned, held or used by the Assignor, in the Assignor's business, or with the Assignor's products and services, or in which the Assignor has any right, title or interest, or (iii) are in the future adopted, acquired, owned, held and used by the Assignor in the Assignor's business or with the Assignor's products and services, or in which the Assignor in the future acquires any right, title or interest.

use. With respect to any Trademark, all uses of such Trademark by, for or in connection with the Assignor or its business or for the benefit of the Assignor or its business, including all such uses by the Assignor itself, by any of the affiliates of the Assignor, or by any franchisee, licensee or contractor of the Assignor.

Unless otherwise provided herein, the rules of interpretation set forth in §1.2 of the Credit Agreement shall be applicable to this Trademark Agreement.

2. GRANT OF SECURITY INTEREST.

2.1. Security Interest; Assignment of Marks. As collateral security for the payment and performance in full of all of the Obligations, the Assignor hereby unconditionally grants to the Agent, for the benefit of the Banks and the Agent, a continuing security interest in and first priority lien on the Pledged Trademarks, and pledges and mortgages (but does not transfer title to) the Pledged Trademarks to the Agent for the benefit of the Banks and the Agent.

2.2. Conditional Assignment. In addition to, and not by way of limitation of, the grant, pledge and mortgage of the Pledged Trademarks provided in §2.1, the Assignor grants, assigns, transfers, conveys and sets over to the Agent, for the benefit of the Banks and the Agent, the Assignor's entire right, title and interest in and to the Pledged Trademarks; provided that such grant, assignment, transfer and conveyance shall be and become of force and effect only (i) upon or after the occurrence and during the continuance of an Event of Default and (ii) either (A) upon the written demand of the Agent at any time during such continuance or (B) immediately and automatically (without notice or action of any kind by the Agent) upon an Event of Default for which acceleration of the Revolving Credit Loans is automatic under the Credit Agreement or upon the sale or other disposition of or foreclosure upon the Collateral pursuant to the Credit Agreement and applicable law (including the transfer or other disposition of the Collateral by the Assignor to the Agent or its nominee in lieu of foreclosure).

2.3. Assignment of Marks. The Assignor agrees to execute and deliver to the Agent, upon the request of the Agent given after the occurrence and during the continuance of an Event of Default, an assignment of federally registered trademarks substantially in the form of Exhibit 1 attached hereto (the "Assignment of Marks"). The Assignor hereby authorizes the Agent to complete as assignee and record with the PTO the Assignment of Marks upon the occurrence and during the continuance of an Event of Default and the proper exercise of the Agent's remedies

under the Trademark Agreement and the Security Agreement. In addition, the Assignor hereby constitutes and appoints the Agent as its attorney-in-fact to execute and deliver the Assignment of Marks as provided in §10 below.

3. REPRESENTATIONS, WARRANTIES AND COVENANTS.

The Assignor represents, warrants and covenants that except to the extent the failure of the following, individually or in the aggregate, to be true would not have a Material Adverse Effect: (i) Schedule A sets forth a true and complete list of all material subsisting trademark registrations (state, federal and foreign) and pending trademark registration applications (state, federal and foreign) and common law trademarks now owned by the Assignor (collectively, the "§3 Marks"); (ii) the §3 Marks are subsisting and have not been adjudged invalid or unenforceable, in whole or in part, and there is no litigation or proceeding pending concerning the validity or enforceability of the §3 Marks; (iii) to the best of the Assignor's knowledge, each of the §3 Marks is valid and enforceable; (iv) to the best of the Assignor's knowledge, there is no infringement by others of the §3 Marks which could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect; (v) no claim is pending that the use of any of the §3 Marks does or may violate the rights of any third person, and to the best of the Assignor's knowledge, there is no infringement by the Assignor of the trademark rights of others; (vi) the Assignor owns each of the §3 Marks, free and clear of any liens, charges, encumbrances and adverse claims, including pledges, assignments, licenses, registered user agreements and covenants by the Assignor not to sue third persons, other than the security interest and assignment created by the this Trademark Agreement and security interests permitted by the Credit Agreement (provided, that with respect to any Trademarks registered in a jurisdiction other than the United States or Canada, such representation is to the Assignor's knowledge); (vii) the Assignor has the right to enter into this Trademark Agreement and to perform its terms and has entered and will enter into appropriate agreements with all relevant present and future employees, agents, consultants, licensors and licensees that will enable them to comply with the covenants herein contained; (viii) the Assignor has used, and will continue to use, proper statutory and other appropriate proprietary notices in connection with its use of the Trademarks consistent with its reasonable business judgment; (ix) the Assignor has used, and will continue to use for the duration of this Trademark Agreement, consistent standards of quality with respect to products and services sold or provided under the Trademarks consistent with its reasonable business judgment; (x) this Trademark Agreement will create in favor of the Agent a valid and perfected first priority security interest in the §3 Marks upon making the filings referred to in clause (xi) of this §3; and (xi) except for the filing of financing statements in the State of Illinois under the Uniform Commercial Code and the recording of this Trademark Agreement with the PTO, no authorization, approval or other action by, and no notice to or filing with, any governmental or regulatory authority, agency or office is required either (A) for the grant by the Assignor or the effectiveness of the security interest granted hereby or for the execution, delivery and performance of this Trademark Agreement by the Assignor, or (B) for the perfection of or the exercise by the Agent of any of its rights and remedies hereunder.

4. INSPECTION RIGHTS.

The Assignor hereby grants to each of the Agent and the Banks and its employees and agents the right to visit the Assignor's plants and facilities that manufacture, inspect or store products sold under any of the Trademarks, and to inspect the products and quality control records relating thereto in each case at such reasonable times during regular business hours and at such reasonable intervals as the Agent or any Bank may reasonably request, and prior to an Event of Default, upon reasonable notice, in all cases subject to the confidentiality provisions contained in §8.9.1 of the Credit Agreement.

5. NO TRANSFER OR INCONSISTENT AGREEMENTS.

Without the Agent's prior written consent, and except for licenses of Pledged Trademarks in the ordinary course of the Assignor's business or as permitted by the Credit Agreement, the Assignor will not (i) mortgage, pledge, assign, encumber, grant a security interest in, transfer, license or alienate any of the Pledged Trademarks, or (ii) enter into any agreement (for example, a license agreement) that is inconsistent with the Assignor's obligations under this Trademark Agreement or the Credit Agreement.

6. AFTER-ACQUIRED TRADEMARKS, ETC.

6.1. After-acquired Trademarks. If, before the Obligations shall have been finally paid and satisfied in full, the Assignor shall obtain any right, title or interest in or to any other or new Trademarks, Trademark Registrations or Trademark Rights, the provisions of this Trademark Agreement shall automatically apply thereto and the Assignor shall promptly provide to the Agent notice thereof in writing and execute and deliver to the Agent such documents or instruments as the Agent may reasonably request further to implement, preserve or evidence the Agent's interest therein.

6.2. Amendment to Schedule. The Assignor authorizes the Agent to modify this Trademark Agreement and the Assignment of Marks, without the necessity of the Assignor's further approval or signature, only to amend Exhibit A hereto and the Annex to the Assignment of Marks to include any future or other Trademarks, Trademark Registrations or Trademark Rights under §2 or §6.

7. TRADEMARK PROSECUTION.

7.1. Assignor Responsible. The Assignor shall assume full and complete responsibility for the prosecution, defense, enforcement or any other necessary or desirable actions in connection with the Pledged Trademarks, and shall hold each of the Agent and the Banks harmless from any and all reasonable costs, damages, liabilities and expenses that may be incurred by the Agent or any Bank in connection with the Agent's interest in the Pledged Trademarks or any other action or failure to act in connection with this Trademark Agreement or the transactions

contemplated hereby. In respect of such responsibility, the Assignor shall retain qualified counsel.

7.2. Assignor's Duties, etc. The Assignor shall have the right and the duty, consistent with its reasonable business judgment, through qualified counsel, to prosecute diligently any trademark registration applications of the §3 Marks pending as of the date of this Trademark Agreement or thereafter with respect to any other Trademarks, to preserve and maintain all rights in the Trademark Registrations and material unregistered Trademarks, including the filing of appropriate renewal applications and other instruments to maintain in effect the Trademark Registrations and the payment when due of all registration renewal fees and other fees, taxes and other expenses that shall be incurred or that shall accrue with respect to any of the Trademark Registrations and material unregistered Trademarks. Any expenses incurred in connection with such applications and actions shall be borne by the Assignor. Except in the exercise of its reasonable business judgment, the Assignor shall not abandon any filed trademark registration application, or any Trademark Registration or material unregistered Trademark, without the consent of the Agent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

7.3. Assignor's Enforcement Rights. The Assignor shall have the right and the duty, consistent with its reasonable business judgment, to bring suit or other action in the Assignor's own name to maintain and enforce the Trademarks, the Trademark Registrations and the Trademark Rights. The Assignor may require the Agent to join in such suit or action as necessary to assure the Assignor's ability to bring and maintain any such suit or action in any proper forum if (but only if) the Agent is completely satisfied that such joinder will not subject the Agent or any Bank to any risk of liability. The Assignor shall promptly, upon demand, reimburse and indemnify the Agent for all damages, costs and expenses, including reasonable legal fees, incurred by the Agent pursuant to this §7.3.

7.4. Protection of Trademarks, etc. In general, the Assignor shall take any and all such actions (including institution and maintenance of suits, proceedings or actions), consistent with its reasonable business judgment, as may be necessary or appropriate to properly maintain, protect, preserve, care for and enforce the Pledged Trademarks in all material respects. The Assignor shall not knowingly take or fail to take any action, nor permit any action to be taken or not taken by others under its control, that would materially adversely affect the validity, grant or enforcement of the Pledged Trademarks.

7.5. Notification by Assignor. Promptly upon obtaining knowledge thereof, the Assignor will notify the Agent in writing of the institution of, or any final adverse determination in, any proceeding in the PTO or any similar office or agency of the United States or any foreign country, or any court, regarding the validity of any of the Trademarks or Trademark Registrations (other than routine office action developments) or the Assignor's rights, title or interests in and to the Pledged Trademarks, and of any event that does or reasonably could materially adversely affect the value of any of the Pledged Trademarks, the ability of the Assignor or the Agent to dispose of any of the Pledged Trademarks or the rights and

remedies of the Agent in relation thereto (including but not limited to the levy of any legal process against any of the Pledged Trademarks).

8. REMEDIES.

Upon the occurrence and during the continuance of an Event of Default, the Agent shall have, in addition to all other rights and remedies given it by this Trademark Agreement (including, without limitation, those set forth in §2.2, the Credit Agreement and the other Loan Documents), those allowed by law and the rights and remedies of a secured party under the Uniform Commercial Code as enacted in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Agent may immediately, without demand of performance and without other notice (except as set forth next below) or demand whatsoever to the Assignor, all of which are hereby expressly waived, sell or license at public or private sale or otherwise realize upon the whole or from time to time any part of the Pledged Trademarks, or any interest that the Assignor may have therein, and after deducting from the proceeds of sale or other disposition of the Pledged Trademarks all expenses incurred by the Agent in attempting to enforce this Trademark Agreement (including all reasonable expenses for broker's fees and legal services), shall apply the residue of such proceeds toward the payment of the Obligations as set forth in or by reference in the Credit Agreement. Notice of any sale, license or other disposition of the Pledged Trademarks shall be given to the Assignor at least ten (10) days before the time that any intended public sale or other public disposition of the Pledged Trademarks is to be made or after which any private sale or other private disposition of the Pledged Trademarks may be made, which the Assignor hereby agrees shall be reasonable notice of such public or private sale or other disposition. At any such sale or other disposition, the Agent may, to the extent permitted under applicable law, purchase or license the whole or any part of the Pledged Trademarks or interests therein sold, licensed or otherwise disposed of.

9. COLLATERAL PROTECTION.

If the Assignor shall fail to do any act that it has covenanted to do hereunder, or if any representation or warranty of the Assignor shall be breached, the Agent, in its own name or that of the Assignor (in the sole discretion of the Agent), may (but shall not be obligated to) do such act or remedy such breach (or cause such act to be done or such breach to be remedied), and the Assignor agrees promptly to reimburse the Agent for any reasonable cost or expense incurred by the Agent in so doing.

10. POWER OF ATTORNEY.

If any Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing, the Assignor does hereby make, constitute and appoint the Agent (and any officer or agent of the Agent as the Agent may select in its exclusive discretion) as the Assignor's true and lawful attorney-in-fact, with full power of substitution and with the power to endorse the Assignor's name on all applications, documents, papers and instruments necessary for the Agent to use the Pledged Trademarks, or to grant or issue any

exclusive or nonexclusive license of any of the Pledged Trademarks to any third person, or to take any and all actions necessary for the Agent to assign, pledge, convey or otherwise transfer title in or dispose of any of the Pledged Trademarks or any interest of the Assignor therein to any third person including without limitation executing the Assignment of Marks and completing the same as assignee, if applicable, and, in general, to execute and deliver any instruments or documents and do all other acts that the Assignor is obligated to execute and do hereunder. The Assignor hereby ratifies all that such attorney shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof and releases each of the Agent and the Banks from any claims, liabilities, causes of action or demands arising out of or in connection with any action taken or omitted to be taken by the Agent under this power of attorney (except for the Agent's or any such Person's gross negligence or willful misconduct). This power of attorney is coupled with an interest and shall be irrevocable for the duration of this Trademark Agreement.

11. FURTHER ASSURANCES.

The Assignor shall, at any time and from time to time, and at its expense, make, execute, acknowledge and deliver, and file and record as necessary or appropriate with governmental or regulatory authorities, agencies or offices, such agreements, assignments, documents and instruments, and do such other and further acts and things (including, without limitation, obtaining consents of third parties), as the Agent may request as necessary to implement and effect fully the intentions, purposes and provisions of this Trademark Agreement, or to assure and confirm to the Agent the grant, perfection and priority of the Agent's security interest in the Pledged Trademarks.

12. TERMINATION.

At such time as all of the Obligations have been finally paid and satisfied in full, this Trademark Agreement shall terminate and the Agent shall, upon the written request and at the expense of the Assignor, execute and deliver to the Assignor all deeds, assignments and other instruments as may be necessary or proper to release the security interest in and lien on the Pledged Trademarks hereunder and to reassign to the Assignor any Pledged Trademarks conditionally assigned pursuant to §2.2 hereof previously granted, assigned, transferred and conveyed to the Agent by the Assignor pursuant to this Trademark Agreement, as fully as if this Trademark Agreement had not been made, subject to any disposition of all or any part thereof that may have been made by the Agent pursuant hereto or the Domestic Security Agreement.

13. COURSE OF DEALING.

No course of dealing between the Assignor and the Agent, nor any failure to exercise, nor any delay in exercising, on the part of the Agent, any right, power or privilege hereunder or under the Credit Agreement or any other agreement shall operate as a waiver thereof; nor shall any single or partial exercise of any right,

power or privilege hereunder or thereunder preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right, power or privilege.

14. EXPENSES.

Any and all reasonable fees, costs and expenses, of whatever kind or nature, including the reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by the Agent in connection with the preparation of this Trademark Agreement and all other documents relating hereto, the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby or the enforcement hereof, the filing or recording of any documents (including all taxes in connection therewith) in public offices, the payment or discharge of any taxes, counsel fees, maintenance or renewal fees, encumbrances, or otherwise protecting, maintaining or preserving the Pledged Trademarks, or in defending or prosecuting any actions or proceedings arising out of or related to the Pledged Trademarks, shall be borne and paid by the Assignor.

15. OVERDUE AMOUNTS.

Until paid, all amounts due and payable by the Assignor hereunder shall be a debt secured by the Pledged Trademarks and other Collateral and shall bear, whether before or after judgment, interest at the rate of interest for overdue principal set forth in the Credit Agreement.

16. NO ASSUMPTION OF LIABILITY; INDEMNIFICATION.

NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING TO THE CONTRARY CONTAINED HEREIN, NEITHER THE AGENT NOR ANY BANK ASSUMES ANY LIABILITIES OF THE ASSIGNOR WITH RESPECT TO ANY CLAIM OR CLAIMS REGARDING THE ASSIGNOR'S OWNERSHIP OR PURPORTED OWNERSHIP OF, OR RIGHTS OR PURPORTED RIGHTS ARISING FROM, ANY OF THE PLEDGED TRADEMARKS OR ANY USE, LICENSE OR SUBLICENSE THEREOF, WHETHER ARISING OUT OF ANY PAST, CURRENT OR FUTURE EVENT, CIRCUMSTANCE, ACT OR OMISSION OR OTHERWISE. ALL OF SUCH LIABILITIES SHALL BE EXCLUSIVELY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ASSIGNOR, AND THE ASSIGNOR SHALL INDEMNIFY THE AGENT AND THE BANKS FOR ANY AND ALL REASONABLE COSTS, EXPENSES, DAMAGES AND CLAIMS, INCLUDING LEGAL FEES, INCURRED BY THE AGENT OR ANY BANK WITH RESPECT TO SUCH LIABILITIES.

17. NOTICES.

All notices and other communications made or required to be given pursuant to this Trademark Agreement shall be in writing and shall be delivered in hand, mailed by United States registered or certified first-class mail, postage prepaid, or sent by telegraph, telecopy or telex and confirmed by delivery via courier or postal service, addressed as set forth in §20 of the Credit Agreement.

Any such notice or demand shall be deemed to have been duly given or made and to have become effective (i) if delivered by hand to a responsible officer of the party to which it is directed, at the time of the receipt thereof by such officer, (ii) if sent by registered or certified first-class mail, postage prepaid, two (2) Business Days after the posting thereof, and (iii) if sent by telegraph, telecopy, or telex, at the time of the dispatch thereof, if in normal business hours in the country of receipt, or otherwise at the opening of business on the following Business Day.

18. AMENDMENT AND WAIVER.

This Trademark Agreement is subject to modification only by a writing signed by the Agent (with the consent of the Majority Banks) and the Assignor, except as provided in §6.2. The Agent shall not be deemed to have waived any right hereunder unless such waiver shall be in writing and signed by the Agent and the Majority Banks. A waiver on any one occasion shall not be construed as a bar to or waiver of any right on any future occasion.

19. GOVERNING LAW; CONSENT TO JURISDICTION.

THIS TRADEMARK AGREEMENT IS INTENDED TO TAKE EFFECT AS A SEALED INSTRUMENT AND SHALL BE GOVERNED BY, AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH, THE LAWS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. The Assignor agrees that any suit for the enforcement of this Trademark Agreement may be brought in the courts of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any federal court sitting therein and consents to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of such court and to service of process in any such suit being made upon the Assignor by mail at the address specified in §17. The Assignor hereby waives any objection that it may now or hereafter have to the venue of any such suit or any such court or that such suit is brought in an inconvenient court.

20. WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL.

THE ASSIGNOR WAIVES ITS RIGHT TO A JURY TRIAL WITH RESPECT TO ANY ACTION OR CLAIM ARISING OUT OF ANY DISPUTE IN CONNECTION WITH THIS TRADEMARK AGREEMENT, ANY RIGHTS OR OBLIGATIONS HEREUNDER OR THE PERFORMANCE OF ANY SUCH RIGHTS OR OBLIGATIONS. Except as prohibited by law, the Assignor waives any right which it may have to claim or recover in any litigation referred to in the preceding sentence any special, exemplary, punitive or consequential damages or any damages other than, or in addition to, actual damages. The Assignor (i) certifies that neither the Agent or any Bank nor any representative, agent or attorney of the Agent or any Bank has represented, expressly or otherwise, that the Agent or any Bank would not, in the event of litigation, seek to enforce the foregoing waivers, and (ii) acknowledges that, in entering into the Credit Agreement and the other Loan Documents to which the Agent or any Bank is a party, the Agent and the Banks are relying upon, among other things, the waivers and certifications contained in this §20.

21. OTHER ASSET INTERCREDITOR AGREEMENT.

This Agreement is subject to the terms of the Other Asset Intercreditor Agreement.

22. MISCELLANEOUS.

The headings of each section of this Trademark Agreement are for convenience only and shall not define or limit the provisions thereof. This Trademark Agreement and all rights and obligations hereunder shall be binding upon the Assignor and its respective successors and assigns, and shall inure to the benefit of the Agent, the Banks and their respective successors and assigns. In the event of any irreconcilable conflict between the provisions of this Trademark Agreement and the Credit Agreement, the provisions of the Credit Agreement shall control. If any term of this Trademark Agreement shall be held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity of all other terms hereof shall in no way be affected thereby, and this Trademark Agreement shall be construed and be enforceable as if such invalid, illegal or unenforceable term had not been included herein. The Assignor acknowledges receipt of a copy of this Trademark Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Trademark Agreement has been executed as of the day and year first above written.

BLISS & LAUGHLIN, LLC

By: John B. George
Name: John B. George

Title: Vice President Finance & Treasurer

FLEET NATIONAL BANK (f/k/a
BankBoston, N.A.), as Agent

By: M. J. Smith
Name: MARGARET JOHNSON
Title: VICE PRESIDENT

CERTIFICATE OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT

COMMONWEALTH OR STATE OF OHIO)
COUNTY OF SUMMIT) ss.

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the county aforesaid, on this 30th day of May, 2000, personally appeared Opus B. George to me known personally, and who, being by me duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the Vice President / Finance Treasurer of **BLISS & LAUGHLIN, LLC**, and that said instrument was signed and sealed on behalf of said company by authority of **BLISS & LAUGHLIN, LLC**, and said He acknowledged said instrument to be the free act and deed of said company.

Lawrence A. Newson
Notary Public
My commission expires: 12/23/03

CERTIFICATE OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT

COMMONWEALTH OR STATE OF Massachusetts)
) ss.
COUNTY OF Suffolk)

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the county aforesaid, on this 6 day of ~~May~~ June, 2000, personally appeared Marwan Isbaih to me known personally, and who, being by me duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the Vice President of **FLEET NATIONAL BANK**, and that said instrument was signed and sealed on behalf of said bank by authority of its governing body, and said Marwan Isbaih acknowledged said instrument to be the free act and deed of said bank.

Patricia Goodwin
Notary Public Patricia Goodwin
My commission expires: 11/2/01

SCHEDULE A

Trademarks and Trademark Registrations

U.S. TRADEMARKS:

Trademark or Service Mark	Registrations -- United States Patent and Trademark Office	
	<u>Registration No.</u>	<u>Registration Date</u>
B&L	736,665	8/28/62
STRAIN TEMPERED	800,051	12/7/65
FIRE-BAR	1,783,841	7/27/93
FIRE-BAR ASTM A-311	1,786,467	10/10/93
BL	1,776,238	6/15/93

EXHIBIT 1

ASSIGNMENT OF TRADEMARKS AND SERVICE MARKS

WHEREAS, BLISS & LAUGHLIN, LLC, a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, having a place of business at 281 East 155th Street, Harvey, Illinois (the "Assignor"), has adopted and used and is using the trademarks and service marks (the "Marks") identified on the Annex hereto, and is the owner of the registrations of and pending registration applications for such Marks in the United States Patent and Trademark Office and in the foreign trademark offices identified on such Annex; and

WHEREAS, _____, a _____ organized and existing under the laws of _____, having a place of business at _____ (the "Assignee"), is desirous of acquiring the Marks and the registrations thereof and registration applications therefor;

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the Assignor does hereby assign, sell and transfer unto the Assignee all right, title and interest in and to the Marks, together with (i) the registrations of and registration applications for the Marks, (ii) the goodwill of the business symbolized by and associated with the Marks and the registrations thereof, and (iii) the right to sue and recover for, and the right to profits or damages due or accrued arising out of or in connection with, any and all past, present or future infringements or dilution of or damage or injury to the Marks or the registrations thereof or such associated goodwill.

This Assignment of Trademarks and Service Marks is intended to and shall take effect as a sealed instrument at such time as the Assignee shall complete this instrument by inserting its name in the second paragraph above and signing its acceptance of this Assignment of Trademarks and Service Marks below.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Assignor, by its duly authorized officer, has executed this assignment, as an instrument under seal, on this __ day of _____, ____.

BLISS & LAUGHLIN, LLC

By: _____
Title:

The foregoing assignment of the Marks and the registrations thereof and registration applications therefor by the Assignor to the Assignee is hereby accepted as of the __ day of _____, ____.

By: _____
Title:

CERTIFICATE OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT

COMMONWEALTH OR STATE OF _____)
) ss.
COUNTY OF _____)

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the county aforesaid,
on this ___ day of May, 2000, personally appeared
_____ to me known personally, and who, being by
me duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the
_____ of **BLISS & LAUGHLIN, LLC**, and
that said instrument was signed and sealed on behalf of said company by authority
of **BLISS & LAUGHLIN, LLC**, and said _____
acknowledged said instrument to be the free act and deed of said company.

Notary Public
My commission expires:

ANNEX

Trademarks and Trademark Registrations

U.S. TRADEMARKS:

Trademark or Service Mark	Registrations -- United States Patent and Trademark Office	
	<u>Registration No.</u>	<u>Registration Date</u>
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