REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 31-33 are pending in this application. Claims 1-30 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and Claim 32 has been amended to correct a typographical error and to more clearly define the invention, all without the introduction of any new matter.

In light of the above, an early and favorable examination on the merits and favorable examination on the merits as to presently active Claims 31-33 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

[Signature]

Eckhard H. Kuesters  
Registration No. 28,870
Attorney of Record  
Raymond F. Cardillo, Jr.  
Registration No. 40,440

Customer Number  
22850

Tel.: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413-2220  
EHK/RFC/jmp