July 27, 2000

VIA FACSIMILE

Dr. Manfred Groner
ISLER & PEDRAZZINI AG
Postfach 6940
CH-8023 Zurich
Switzerland

Re: New Patent Application
Inventor: Peter Schmucki
Your reference: P130089/MG/TB
Our reference: SCHMUCKI=1

Dear Dr. Groner:

This will acknowledge receipt of your order letter of April 26, 2000 for which we thank you.

Enclosed you will find both the raw translation from German into English, and a revised application based on the translation, ready for execution by the inventor after his thorough review. If the revised application is found appropriate now or after revision, the inventor should execute the application by signing the filing declaration, and the assignment. Both documents should be executed on the same date. Copies of the declaration and assignment for the inventor's execution are attached. Note, however, that these documents list the single inventor identified in your order letter and not Mr. Ballmoos, who is identified only as an "Applicant". If either of the documents should include Mr. Ballmoos please insert him and have him execute the document(s).

A number of changes were made to the raw translation to arrive at the revised specification. We also redrafted the claims to better meet U.S. claim drafting practice. We would appreciate you checking the claims carefully to determine

whether they accurately describe the invention. Note that the claims are limited to coverage of the connection not in combination with the pipes connected.

If any extensive changes are necessary, the pages in question should be retyped before execution (no changes are permitted between the time of execution and the time of filing). Minor changes can be made by interlineations in ink, in which case the inventors must place their initials and the date adjacent each such interlineation in ink.

Please return the executed application, including the declaration and assignment with original signatures for filing to meet your indirected deadline.

Sincerely,

Norman J. Latker
Managing Attorney

NJL:pw
Enclosures
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