

**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**

**TRANSLATION**

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

**PCT**

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

|                                     |                   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Date of mailing<br>(day/month/year) | <b>20.02.2018</b> |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br><b>P1004647WO01</b> | <b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b><br>See paragraph 2 below |
|--|--|

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| International application No.<br><b>PCT/JP2017/044301</b> | International filing date (day/month/year)<br><b>11.12.2017</b> | Priority date (day/month/year)<br><b>28.12.2016</b> |
|---|---|---|

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC  
**H01M10/052 (2010.01) i, H01M4/13 (2010.01) i, H01M4/36 (2006.01) i, H01M4/485 (2010.01) i, H01M4/505 (2010.01) i, H01M4/525 (2010.01) i, H01M4/587 (2010.01) i, H01M4/62 (2006.01) i, H01M10/0567 (2010.01) i**

Applicant  
**PANASONIC INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT CO., LTD.**

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

|  |                                    |                    |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP | Date of completion of this opinion | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No.                          |                                    | Telephone No.      |

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2017/044301

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - the international application in the language in which it was filed
  - a translation of the international application into \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).
2.  This opinion has been established taking into account the **rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43bis.1(a))
3.  With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, this opinion has been established on the basis of a sequence listing:
  - a.  forming part of the international application as filed:
    - in the form of an Annex C/ST.25 text file.
    - on paper or in the form of an image file.
  - b.  furnished together with the international application under PCT Rule 13ter.1(a) for the purposes of international search only in the form of an Annex C/ST.25 text file.
  - c.  furnished subsequent to the international filing date for the purposes of international search only:
    - in the form of an Annex C/ST.25 text file (Rule 13ter.1(a)).
    - on paper or in the form of an image file (Rule 13ter.1(b) and Administrative Instructions, Section 713).
4.  In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that forming part of the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
5. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
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| International application No.<br>PCT/JP2017/044301 |
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| <b>Box No. V</b> | <b>Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</b> |
|------------------|---|

|                               |        |       |     |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------|-----|
| 1. Statement                  |        |       |     |
| Novelty (N)                   | Claims | 1-5   | YES |
|                               | Claims | _____ | NO  |
| Inventive step (IS)           | Claims | 1-5   | YES |
|                               | Claims | _____ | NO  |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-5   | YES |
|                               | Claims | _____ | NO  |

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 2. Citations and explanations: |  |
|--------------------------------|--|

Document 1: WO 2012/111813 A1 (TOSHIBA CORPORATION) 23 August 2012 & US 2013/0330613 A1 & EP 2677572 A1 & CN 103314471 A

Document 2: JP 2007-173150 A (GS YUASA CORPORATION) 05 July 2007 (Family: none)

Document 3: JP 2010-50079 A (SANYO ELECTRIC CO., LTD.) 04 March 2010 & US 2009/0239146 A1

Document 4: JP 10-162860 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.) 19 June 1998 (Family: none)

The invention as in claims 1-5 is not disclosed in any of the documents cited in the ISR, and is novel and involves an inventive step. In particular, none of the documents discloses a nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery comprising a positive electrode having a positive electrode mixture layer including a first positive electrode active material and a second positive electrode active material, a negative electrode having a negative electrode mixture layer including a lithium titanium composite oxide as a negative electrode active material,

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International application No.

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement

and a nonaqueous electrolyte including a lithium salt having an oxalato complex as an anion, wherein the first positive electrode active material is a Co-containing lithium transition metal oxide and has a volume per mass of  $8 \text{ mm}^3/\text{g}$  or more with respect to pores having a pore diameter of 100 nm or less, the second positive electrode active material has a volume per mass of  $5 \text{ mm}^3/\text{g}$  or less with respect to pores having a pore diameter of 100 nm or less, the volume per mass of the pores having a pore diameter of 100 nm or less in the first positive electrode material is set to 4 times or more the volume per mass of the pores having a pore diameter of 100 nm or less in the second positive electrode active material, and the amount of the first positive electrode active material is set to 30% by mass or less of the total amount of the first positive electrode active material and the second positive electrode active material. Meanwhile, because of such a configuration, the present invention exerts an advantageous effect that Co eluted from the first positive electrode active material with charge and discharge cycles migrates to the negative electrode, and a coating film is formed on the surface of a lithium titanium composite oxide by the reaction of said migrated Co and a decomposition product derived from the lithium salt having an oxalato complex as an anion in the nonaqueous electrolyte, thereby suppressing gas generation associated with charge and discharge cycles.