

**APPLICATION BY FOREIGN CORPORATION FOR AUTHORIZATION
TRANSACTION BUSINESS IN FLORIDA**

IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 607.1503, FLORIDA STATUTES, THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED TO REGISTER A FOREIGN CORPORATION TO TRANSACT BUSINESS IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA:

1. A - L Gases, Inc.
(Name of corporation: must include the word "INCORPORATED", "COMPANY", "CORPORATION", or words or abbreviations of like import in language as will clearly indicate that it is a corporation instead of a natural person or partnership if not so contained in the name at present.)
2. Alabama
(State or country under the law of which it is incorporated)
3. Applied For
(FEI number, if applicable)
4. 4-8-96
(Date of Incorporation)
5. Perpetual
(Duration: Year corp. will cease to exist or "Perpetual")
6. None
(Date first transacted business in Florida. (See sections 607.1501, 607.1502, and 617.156, F.S.))
7. 3340 Birmingham Highway, Montgomery, Alabama 36108
(Current mailing address)

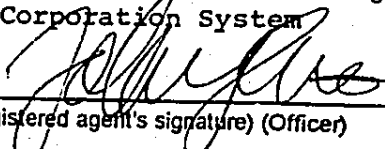
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8. To engage in the business of selling and dealing in all kinds of welding and industrial supplies and any and all other businesses related thereto.
(Purpose(s) of corporation authorized in home state or country to be carried out in the state of Florida)

9. Name and street address of Florida registered agent:

Name: C T Corporation System
c/o C T Corporation System, 1200 South Pine
 Office Address: Island Road
Plantation, Florida, 33324
 (Zip Code)

10. Registered agent acceptance:
 Having been named as registered agent and to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this application. I hereby accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity. I further agree to comply with the provisions of all statutes relative to the proper and complete performance of my duties, and I am familiar with and accept the obligation of my position as registered agent.

C T Corporation System

 (Registered agent's signature) (Officer)

John Masters Assistant Secretary
 (Type Name and Title of Officer)

11. Attached is a certificate of existence duly authenticated, not more than 90 days prior to delivery of this application to the Department of State, by the Secretary of State or other official having custody of corporate records in the jurisdiction under the law of which it is incorporated.

12. Names and addresses of officers and/or directors:

A. DIRECTORS

Chairman: _____

Address: _____

Vice Chairman: _____

Address: _____

Director: Tonny L. Buchanan

Address: 3340 Birmingham Highway
Montgomery, Alabama 36108

Director: Sharon E. Buchanan

Address: 3340 Birmingham Highway
Montgomery, Alabama 36108

B. OFFICERS

President: Tonny L. Buchanan

Address: 3340 Birmingham Highway
Montgomery, Alabama 36108

Vice President: _____

Address: _____

Secretary: Sharon E. Buchanan

Address: 3340 Birmingham Highway
Montgomery, Alabama 36108

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Treasurer: Sharon E. Buchanan

Address: 3340 Birmingham Highway

Montgomery, Alabama 36108

NOTE: If necessary, you may attach an addendum to the application listing additional officers and/or directors.

13. *Sharon E. Buchanan*
(Signature of Chairman, Vice Chairman, or any officer listed in number 12 of the application)

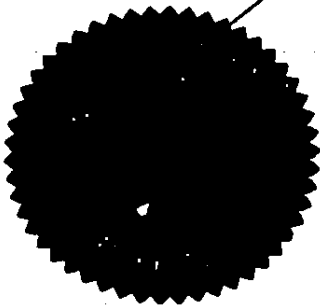
14. Tonny L. Buchanan/President
(Typed or printed name and capacity of person signing application)

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STATE OF ALABAMA

I, Jim Bennett, Secretary of State of the State of Alabama, having custody of the Great and Principal Seal of said State, do hereby certify that the domestic corporation records on file in this office disclose that A - L Gases, Inc. incorporated in Montgomery County, Montgomery, Alabama on April 8, 1996. I further certify that the records do not disclose that said A - L Gases, Inc. has been dissolved.

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In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State, at the Capitol, in the City of Montgomery, on this day.

April 26, 1996

Date

Jim Bennett

Jim Bennett

Secretary of State