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(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **PPG INDUSTRIES OHIO, INC.** [US/US]; 3800 West 143rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **SILVERNAIL, Nathan J.** [US/US]; 1526 Montgomery Road, Allison Park, Pennsylvania 15101 (US). **McMILLEN, Mark W.** [US/US]; 447 Fisher Road, Cabot, Pennsylvania 16023 (US). **CHENG, Shan** [CN/US]; 1400 Christa Court, Sewickley, Pennsylvania 15143 (US).

(74) Agents: **PALLADINO, Donald R.** et al.; PPG Industries, Inc., One PPG Place, 39th Floor, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15272 (US).

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**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

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- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

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(54) Title: ZIRCONIUM PRETREATMENT COMPOSITIONS CONTAINING A RARE EARTH METAL, ASSOCIATED METHODS FOR TREATING METAL SUBSTRATES, AND RELATED COATED METAL SUBSTRATES

(57) Abstract: Disclosed are methods for treating metal substrates that include contacting the substrate with a pretreatment composition comprising a rare earth metal and a zirconyl compound. The present invention also relates to coated substrates produced thereby and further to substrates additionally coated with an electrophoretically applied coating composition.

