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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party:

Michael R. Forman

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No

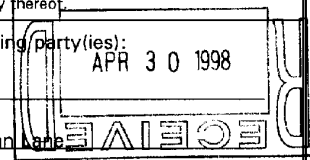
2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):

Name: Schneider (USA) Inc

Street Address: 5905 Nathan Lane

City: Plymouth State: Minnesota ZIP: 55442

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes No



3. Nature of conveyance:

- Assignment Merger
- Security Agreement Change of Name
- Other _____

Execution Date: April 21, 1998

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: _____

A. Patent Application No.(s)

B. Patent No. (s) 5,531,685, entitled "Steerable Variable Stiffness Device, issued July 2, 1996.

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

Name: Dr. Peter C. Richardson

Internal Address: Pfizer Inc

Street Address: 235 East 42nd Street, 20th Floor

City: New York State: New York ZIP: 10017-5755

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40.00

- Enclosed
- Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number:

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To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

Philip C. Strassburger
Name of Person Signing
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Signature

4/24/98
Date

Total number of pages comprising cover sheet

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 24th day of April, 1998.

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ASSIGNMENT

For valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged, I, Michael R. Forman, a resident of 472 Vadnais Lake Drive, Vadnais Heights, Minnesota 55127, USA, hereby sell, assign, and transfer unto **SCHNEIDER (USA) INC**, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Minnesota, and having its principal office located at 5905 Nathan Lane, Plymouth, Minnesota 55442, my entire right, title, and interest in and to United States Patent No. 5,531,685, entitled Steerable Variable Stiffness Device and my entire right, title, and interest in and to all my inventions, whether joint or sole, disclosed in said United States Patent No. 5,531,685, and in and to all applications filed for Letters Patent for any of said inventions in any country, and in and to all patents granted on the foregoing applications, and I hereby agree, whenever requested, to communicate to said assignee, its successors and assigns, any facts known to me respecting said inventions, to testify in any legal proceeding, and to execute all applications or papers necessary to obtain and maintain proper patent protection on said inventions in all countries.

Signed and witnessed this 21st day of April, 1998

at St. Paul, MN
(City, State)

Michael R. Forman
Michael R. Forman

In the presence of:

Judy Rothenberg
(Witness as to Michael R. Forman)

Judy Rothenberg
(Typed or Printed Name of Witness)