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08-03-2000

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark Office  
PATENT



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7-10-00  
163-279

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13815 U.S. PTO  
09/612687  
07/10/00

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Merger  Other

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Enter either the Patent Application Number or the Patent Number (DO NOT ENTER BOTH numbers for the same property).

Patent Application Number(s)			Patent Number(s)		
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<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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If this document is being filed together with a new Patent Application, enter the date the patent application was signed by the first named executing inventor. Month Day Year

**Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)**

Enter PCT application number  PCT  PCT

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**Number of Properties** Enter the total number of properties involved. #

**Fee Amount** Fee Amount for Properties Listed (37 CFR 3.41): \$

Method of Payment: Enclosed  Deposit Account

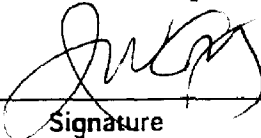
Deposit Account (Enter for payment by deposit account or if additional fees can be charged to the account.)

Deposit Account Number: #

Authorization to charge additional fees: Yes  No

**Statement and Signature**

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. Charges to deposit account are authorized, as indicated herein.

James V. Costigan, Reg. No. 25,669  July 10, 2000

Name of Person Signing Signature Date

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, we the undersigned,

Paolo ROSSI and Aldo BERNAREGGI respectively  
of STANSSTAD NW, Switzerland and  
ZOCCORINO (Milan, Italy)

have invented a certain new and useful invention entitled "Articulated rod  
for a hip support"

; and

WHEREAS, ORTHOSCHÄRER & CO. di PAOLO ROSSI & CO.  
a corporation of Switzerland  
having a place of business at Fischergrasse 1 - CH-6362 STANSSTAD NW Switzerland

(hereinafter referred to as "Assignee"), is desirous of acquiring the  
entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and any and  
all Letters Patent of the United States and Letters Patent in any and  
all foreign countries which may be obtained therefor;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other  
good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby  
acknowledged, we do hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over unto  
the said Assignee, its legal representatives, successors and assigns,  
the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention, as  
described in the patent application filed in the United States Patent  
and Trademark Office on \_\_\_\_\_,  
given Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, and entitled "Articulated rod for a hip  
support"

and in and to all patents of the United States and in any and all  
foreign countries which may be issued for said invention, as fully and  
completely as the same would have been held by us had this Assignment  
and sale not been made. The said entire right, title and interest  
shall vest irrevocably in said Assignee.

We further agree upon request, without additional compensation  
but at no expense to ourselves, to execute or assent to foreign  
applications, and to execute all other legal documents as may be  
necessary or desirable to vest the enjoyment of the rights hereby  
transferred in said Assignee, its legal representatives, successors  
and assigns, or as the said company may direct.

The Attorney of Record is hereby authorized to insert the Serial  
Number and filing date in the above blank spaces when received from  
the Patent and Trademark Office.

We hereby request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any Letters Patent of the United States which may be issued for said invention to the said Assignee, its legal representatives, successors and assigns, as the sole owner of the entire right, title and interest in and to said patents and inventions covered thereby.

JULY 6, 2000

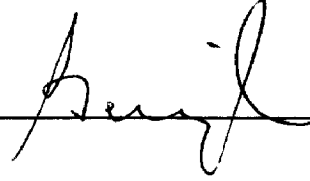
Date



(Paolo ROSSI)

JULY 6, 2000

Date



(Aldo BERNAREGGI)