

02-02-2001

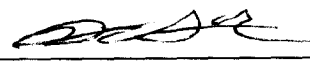
1-17-01



To the Honorable Commissioner
of Patent and Trademarks:

101603513

Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

<p>1. Name of conveying party(ies):</p> <p><u>Bryan D. Knodel</u> <u>Bennie Thompson</u> <u>Richard P. Fuchs</u> <u>Jesse Kuhns</u></p> <p>Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):</p> <p>Name: Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc. Street Address: 4545 Creek Road City: <u>Cincinnati</u> State: OH zip: 45242</p> <p>Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>3. Nature of conveyance:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment <input type="checkbox"/> Merger <input type="checkbox"/> Security Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Name <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p>Execution Date: November 27, 2000; November 16, 2000; November 28, 2000</p>	
<p>4. Application number(s) or patent number(s): <u>09692635</u></p> <p>The execution date of the application is: November 27, 2000; November 16, 2000; November 28, 2000</p> <p>A. Patent Application No.(s) B. Patent No.(s)</p> <p>Additional numbers attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:</p> <p>Audley A. Ciamporcerro, Jr., Esq. Chief Patent Counsel Johnson & Johnson One Johnson & Johnson Plaza New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003</p>	<p>6. Total number of applications involved: <u>1</u></p> <p>7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) <u>\$40.00</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Authorized to be charged to Deposit Account</p> <p>8. Deposit Account Number: 10-0750/CRD-669DLG</p>
<p>9. Statement and signature <i>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.</i></p> <p><u>Dean L. Garner</u>  <u>January 10, 2001</u> Name of Person Signing Signature Date</p>	

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:

Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks
Box Assignments
Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENT
REEL: 011475 FRAME: 0859

A S S I G N M E N T

Serial No. 09/692,635

Filed October 19, 2000

WHEREAS, Bryan D. Knodel, citizen of the United States of America, residing at 6050 Saskan Ranch Circle, Flagstaff, AZ 86002; Bennie Thompson, citizen of the United States of America, residing at 9422 Oakhurst Court, Cincinnati, OH 45241; Richard P. Fuchs, citizen of the United States of America, residing at 260 West Crest Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45215; Jesse Kuhns, citizen of the United States of America, residing at 2903 Linwood Ave. #23, Cincinnati, OH 45208; and Richard P. Nuchols, citizen of the United States of America, residing at 1576 Georgetown Rd., Loveland, OH 45140 (hereinafter called "Assignors"), have made certain new and useful inventions or discoveries relating to

SURGICAL INSTRUMENT HAVING A FASTENER DELIVERY MECHANISM

for which they have this day executed an application for Letters Patent of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc., a corporation formed under the laws of the State of Ohio, (hereinafter called "Assignee"), is desirous of acquiring Assignors' entire right, title, and interest therein:

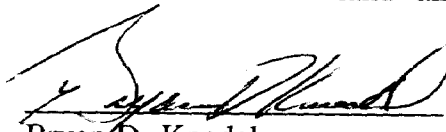
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN that for and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar and other valuable considerations to them moving, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, Assignors have sold, assigned, and transferred, and do hereby sell, assign and transfer unto said Assignee their entire right, title and interest in and to all said inventions and discoveries disclosed in said application whose identification above by serial number and filing date, when available is hereby authorized, and in and to said application, all substitutions, divisions, and continuations thereof, and in and to all Letters Patent, United States and foreign, that may be granted for said inventions and discoveries, and in and to all extensions, renewals, and reissues thereof, the same to be held and enjoyed by said Assignee, its successors and assigns, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by Assignors if this Assignment and sale had not been made;

And Assignors hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents of the United States to issue said Letters Patent in accordance with this Assignment;

And for the consideration aforesaid, Assignors covenant and agree with said Assignee that he has a full and unencumbered title to the inventions and discoveries above described and hereby assigned, which title they warrant unto said Assignee, its successors and assigns;

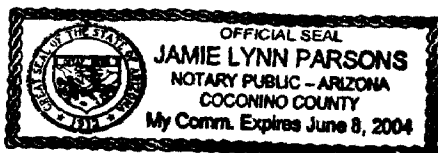
And for the consideration aforesaid, Assignors further covenant and agree that they will, whenever requested, but without cost to them promptly communicate to said Assignee or its representatives any facts known to them relating to said inventions and discoveries, testify in any interference or legal proceedings involving said inventions and discoveries, and execute any additional papers that may be necessary to enable said Assignee or its representatives, successors, nominees, or assigns to secure full and complete protection for the said inventions and discoveries or that may be necessary to vest in said Assignee the complete title to the said inventions and discoveries and patents hereby conveyed and to enable it to record said title.

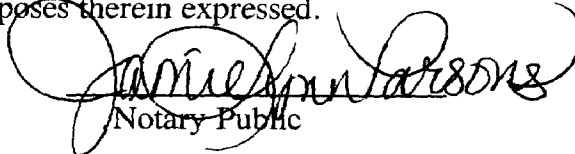
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, Assignor has hereunto set his hand and seal this
27th day of November, 2000.

 (L.S.)
Bryan D. Knodel

STATE OF Arizona)
COUNTY OF Coconino) ss.

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 27th day of November, 2000, before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared Bryan D. Knodel, who I am satisfied is the person named in and who executed the foregoing instrument in my presence, and I having first made known to him the contents thereof, he did acknowledge that he signed, sealed, and delivered the same as his voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein expressed.




Notary Public

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, Assignor has hereunto set his hand and seal this
_____ day of _____, 2000.

Bennie Thompson (L.S.)

STATE OF Ohio)
COUNTY OF Hamilton) ss.

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this _____ day of _____, 2000, before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared Bennie Thompson, who I am satisfied is the person named in and who executed the foregoing instrument in my presence, and I having first made known to him the contents thereof, he did acknowledge that he signed, sealed, and delivered the same as his voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

Notary Public

STATE OF)
) ss.
COUNTY OF)

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this _____ day of _____, 2000, before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared Bryan D. Knodel, who I am satisfied is the person named in and who executed the foregoing instrument in my presence, and I having first made known to him the contents thereof, he did acknowledge that he signed, sealed, and delivered the same as his voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, Assignor has hereunto set his hand and seal this 16th day of November, 2000.

STATE OF Ohio)
) ss.
COUNTY OF Hamilton)

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 14th day of November, 2000, before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared Bennie Thompson, who I am satisfied is the person named in and who executed the foregoing instrument in my presence, and I having first made known to him the contents thereof, he did acknowledge that he signed, sealed, and delivered the same as his voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

PATENT
REEL: 011475 FRAME: 0862

28th day of November, 2000.

Richard P. Fuchs

COUNTY OF Hamilton)

same as his voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

Notary Public

Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Expires Sept. 22, 2023

day of _____, 2000.

Jesse J. Kuhns

COUNTY OF Hamilton)


delivered the same as his voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

Notary Public

STATE OF Ohio)
) ss.
COUNTY OF Hamilton)


BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this _____ day of _____, 2000, before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared Richard P. Fuchs, who I am satisfied is the person named in and who executed the foregoing instrument in my presence, and I having first made known to him the contents thereof, he did acknowledge that he signed, sealed, and delivered the same as his voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, Assignor has hereunto set his hand and seal this 16th day of November, 2000.

 (L.S.)
Jesse J. Kuhns

STATE OF Ohio)
) ss.
COUNTY OF Hamilton)

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 16th day of November, 2000,
before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared Jesse J. Kuhns, who I am satisfied is the
person named in and who executed the foregoing instrument in my presence, and I having first
made known to him the contents thereof, he did acknowledge that he signed, sealed, and
delivered the same as his voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein expressed.


Notary Public

PATENT
REEL: 011475 FRAME: 0864

Richard P. Nuchols (L.S.)
Richard P. Nuchols

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 3rd day of January, 2000, before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared Richard P. Nuchols, who I am satisfied is the person named in and who executed the foregoing instrument in my presence, and I having first made known to him the contents thereof, he did acknowledge that he signed, sealed, and delivered the same as his voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein expressed.

Notario Publico

PATRICIA ANNE JARA
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Expires Sept. 22, 2009

PATENT
REEL: 011475 FRAME: 0865