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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

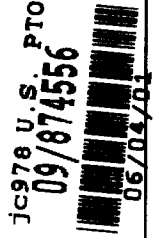
Patent and Trademark Office
Docket No.: 2640/1H769

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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(ies): 06/04/01
William T. Donofrio; Robert P. Gill
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):
Name: **ETHICON ENDO-SURGERY, INC.**
Internal Address:
Street Address: **4545 CREEK ROAD**
City: **Cincinnati** State: **Ohio** Zip: **45242**
Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes No



3. Nature of conveyance:
 Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other

Execution Date: May 31, 2001

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: May 31, 2001

A. Patent Application No.(s) 09/874556
Serial No. To be Assigned
Filed: Herewith

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

Date 6/4/01 Label No. PC706741764US

B. Patent hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, this paper or fee was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service & that it was addressed for delivery to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee's Service."

D. B. Beck
Name (Print) Signature

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

Name: Darby & Darby P.C.
Internal Address: Edward J. Ellis
Street Address: 805 Third Avenue, 27th Floor
City: New York State: New York Zip: 10022-7513

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41):.....\$ 40
 Enclosed
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number:
04-0100
(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

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06/04/2001 RWRIS1 0000056 09874556

9. Statement and signature. 40.00 DP
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.

Edward J. Ellis (40,389)
Name of Person Signing

Edward J. Ellis
Signature

June 4, 2001
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 4

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:
Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments
Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENT

REEL: 011881 FRAME: 0167

A S S I G N M E N T

Serial No. To be Assigned File: Herewith

WHEREAS, William T. Donofrio, citizen of the United States of America, residing at 8755 Tanagerwoods Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45249; Robert P. Gill, citizen of the United States of America, residing at 9122 Nottingham Way, Mason, OH 45040 (hereinafter called "Assignors"), have made certain new and useful inventions or discoveries relating to

FLEXIBLE SWITCH MEMBERS FOR HAND ACTIVATION HANDPIECE SWITCHES

for which they have 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 31st day of May, 2001.

Robert P. Gill (L.S.)

STATE OF Ohio)
COUNTY OF Hamilton) ss.

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 31st day of May, 2001, before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared Robert P. Gill, who I am satisfied as 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.

Patricia Anne Jara
Notary Public

PATRICIA ANNE JARA
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Expires Sept. 22, 2003