

DOCKET NO. ETH-1414
Joint Inventors

A S S I G N M E N T

Serial No. 09/716,685
Filed 11/20/00

WHEREAS, Hans-Jochen Hoepffner and Jorn Lehe, residing at 41 Matthews Farm Road, Belle Mead, NJ 08502 and Willerstwiete 15, 22415 Hamburg, Germany, respectively (hereinafter called "Assignors"), have made certain new and useful inventions or discoveries relating to

Surgical Needle for Implanting a Tape

for which they have on the *11th* day of *May*, 2001 executed an application for Letters Patent of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Ethicon GmbH, a corporation of Germany, (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

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, Assignor has hereunto set his hand and seal this 11 day of May, 2001

Hans-Jochen Hoepffner (L.S.)
Hans-Jochen Hoepffner

STATE OF) New Jersey
) ss.
COUNTY OF) SOMERSET

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 11th day of May, 2001, before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared Hans-Jochen Hoepffner, 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.

Robert J. Tannhauser
Notary Public
ROBERT J. TANHAUSER
Notary Public Of New Jersey
My Commission Expires 10/18/2004

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Surgical Needle for Implanting a Tape

for which they have on the *11th* day of *March*, 2001 executed an application for Letters Patent of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Ethicon GmbH, a corporation of Germany, (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;

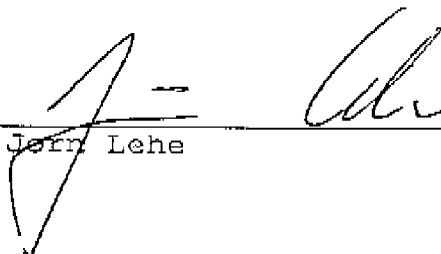
And Assignors hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents of the United States to issue said Letters Patent in accordance with this Assignment;

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 11th day of January, 2001



Jorn Lehe (L.S.)

STATE OF)
) ss.
COUNTY OF)

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this day of , 200 , before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared Jorn Lehe, 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