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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, please return the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies): 9-20-02
Tetsuya Yamamoto, Koichi Kawashima, Yoshio Onuki, Junichi Muramatsu, Keita Suzuki, Yoshiko Sugi, Tsukasa Kobayashi

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):
Name: OLYMPUS OPTICAL CO., LTD.
Internal Address:
Street Address: 43-2, Hatagaya
2-chome, Shibuya-ku
Tokyo, Japan

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

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

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

Execution Date: September 11, 2002 and September 12, 2002

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) 10/162,640 B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached: Yes No

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

John C. Altmiller, Esq.
Kenyon & Kenyon
1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005-1257

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:
11-0600

(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

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9. 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.

John C. Altmiller
Name of Person Signing

Signature

9/20/02
Date

Total number of pages comprising cover sheet: 10

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, we, Tetsuya Yamamoto, Koichi Kawashima, Yoshio Onuki, Junichi Muramatsu, Keita Suzuki, Yoshihiko Sugi, and Tsukasa Kobayashi, citizens of Japan, residing at Hino-shi, Tokyo, Japan, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa, Japan, Hachioji-shi, Tokyo, Japan, Fuchu-shi, Tokyo, Japan, and Hachioji-shi, Tokyo, Japan (hereinafter referred to as "the Assignor"); have made new and useful improvements in an invention entitled **SUTURING DEVICE FOR ENDOSCOPE**, for which we are about to make application for Letters Patent in the United States, said application having been executed on even date hereof; and

WHEREAS, **OLYMPUS OPTICAL CO., LTD.**, a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of Japan, having its principle place of business at 43-2 Hatagaya 2-chome Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, Japan, who, together with its successors and assigns, (hereinafter called "Assignee,") is desirous of acquiring the title, rights, benefits, and privileges hereinafter recited.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the equivalent of One U.S. Dollar (U.S. \$1.00) and other valuable consideration furnished by Assignee to us, receipt and sufficiency of which we hereby acknowledge, we hereby, without reservations:

1. Assign, transfer, and convey to Assignee the Entire right, title, and interest in and to said inventions and discoveries, said application for Letters Patent of the United States of America, including all divisional, renewal, substitute, and continuation applications based in whole or in part upon said inventions or discoveries, or upon said applications, and any and all Letters Patent, reissues, and extensions of letters Patent granted for said inventions and discoveries or upon said applications.

2. Authorize and request the Assistant Commissioner for Patents of the United States of America to issue or transfer all said Letters Patent to Assignee, as assignee of the entire right, title, and interest therein or otherwise as Assignee may direct.

3. Warrant that we have not knowingly conveyed to others any right in said inventions, discoveries, applications, or patents or any license to use the same or to make, use, or sell anything embodying or utilizing any of said inventions or discoveries; and that we have good right to assign the same to Assignee without encumbrance.

4. Bind our heirs, legal representatives, and assigns, as well as ourselves, to do, upon Assignee's request and at Assignee's expense, but without additional consideration to us or them, all acts reasonably serving to assure that the said inventions and discoveries, the said patent applications, and the said Letters Patent shall be held and enjoyed by Assignee as fully and entirely as the same could have been held and enjoyed by us, our heirs, legal representatives, and assigns if this assignment had not been made; and particularly to execute and deliver to Assignee all lawful application documents including petitions, specifications, and oaths, and all assignments, disclaimers, and lawful affidavits in form and substance as may be requested by Assignee; to communicate to Assignee all facts known to us relating to said inventions and discoveries or the history thereof; and to furnish Assignee with any and all documents, photographs, models, samples, and other physical exhibits in our control or in the control of our heirs, legal representatives, or assigns which may be useful for establishing the facts of our conceptions, disclosures, and reduction to practice of said inventions and discoveries.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal
this 11th day of Sep., 2002.

Tetsuya Yamamoto
Tetsuya Yamamoto

WITNESSED BY:

Name

Address

WITNESSED BY:

Name

Address

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal

this 12th day of SEP., 2002.


Koichi Kawashima

WITNESSED BY:

Name

Address

WITNESSED BY:

Name

Address

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this

12th day of Sep., 2002.

Yoshio Onuki

Yoshio Onuki

WITNESSED BY:

Name

Address

WITNESSED BY:

Name

Address

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this
12th day of Sep., 2002.

Junichi Muramatsu

Junichi Muramatsu

WITNESSED BY:

Name

Address

WITNESSED BY:

Name

Address

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this

12th day of Sep, 2002.

Keita Suzuki
Keita Suzuki

WITNESSED BY:

Name

Address

WITNESSED BY:

Name

Address

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this

12th day of Sep, 2002.

Yoshihiko Sugi

Yoshihiko Sugi

WITNESSED BY:

Name

Address

WITNESSED BY:

Name

Address

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this

12th day of Sep., 2002.

Tsukasa Kobayashi
Tsukasa Kobayashi

WITNESSED BY:

Name

Address

WITNESSED BY:

Name

Address