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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks.	Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.
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<ul><li>(1) Franz Bentele</li><li>(2) Helmut Goldmann</li></ul>	Name: AESCULAP AG & CO. KG
G Additional names of conveying parties attached.	Street Address: Am Aesculap-Płatz,
Nature of Conveyance     X Assignment Merger     Security Agreement Change of Name     Other:	City, State, Zip: 78532 Tuttlingen, GERMANY
Execution Date: (1) December 10, 2003 (2) December 4, 2003	G Additional name(s) and address(es) attached.
4. (A) Patent Application Number(s): 10/478,128	4. (B) Patent Number(s):
if this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is:	
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MAY-11-04 10:33;

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A 36090 PCT/US

Attorney Docket No.25820

## ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, I Franz BENTELE (name) of Talstrasse 8, 72147 Nehren, Germany (city, state, country) and Helmut GOLDMANN (name) of Robert-Koch-Strasse 41, 78532 Tuttligen, Germany (city, state, country) have made certain inventions which are described in an application for Letters Patent of the United States entitled Surgical implant, method for the production and use thereof executed by me on even dates herewith preparatory to obtaining United States Letters Patent therefore, and

WHEREAS, <u>AESCULAP AG & CO. KG</u> (hereinafter referred to as said Company), a <u>German</u> (state or country) corporation having a place of business at <u>Am Aesculap-Platz</u>, 78532 Tuttlingen, <u>Germany</u> (city, state, country) are desirous of acquiring the entire interest in said inventions throughout the United States of America and the territories thereof, for all other countries and under all international agreements,

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of One Dollar (\$ 1.00) to me in hand paid, and other good and valuable consideration, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, I hereby sell, assign and transfer unto said Company, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest throughout the United States of America and the territories thereof, for all foreign countries and under all international agreements in and to foreign countries and under all international agreements in and to said inventions, the aforesaid application, all other applications hereafter filed in the United States, in any other country, or under any international agreement based in whole or in part on said inventions, and all Letters Patents granted upon said applications by the United States, by any other country or under any international agreement, and I do hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue said Letters Patent to said Company. I further grant to said

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Company, its successors and assigns, the right to claim for any of said applications the full benefits and priority rights of any international agreement between the United States and any foreign country or countries or between any other countries.

I hereby warrant that I have the full right to make the conveyance herein, and I hereby covenant that me, my heirs, legal representatives and assigns, will when requested, communicate to said Company, its representatives, successors and assigns, all facts known respecting said inventions, execute all divisional, continuing, reissue, reexamination and foreign or international applications, together with individual assignments therefore, make all rightful oaths, sign all lawful papers, testify in any legal proceeding and generally do everything possible to aid said Company, its successors and assigns, in the obtaining of Letters Patent.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at the location and on the date indicated with my signature.

2003.12, N.

Date:

2003.12.04

Date:

(Franz BENTELE)

(Helmut GOLDMANN

WITNESSES:

Yvonne Ku (signature)

(signature)

(Name, typed or printed)

(Name, typed or printed)

PATENT REEL: 014616 FRAME: 0237

**RECORDED: 05/11/2004**