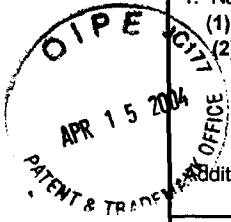




To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents

102725356

original documents or copy thereof.



1. Name of conveying party(ies):
(1) Friedhelm BEYERSDORF, and
(2) Georg LUTTER
4/15/04
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)
Name: Universitätsklinikum Freiburg/Albert-Ludwigs-Universität
Internal Address: _____
Street Address: Stefan-Meier-Str. 8
D-79104 Freiburg, Germany
Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes No

3. Nature of conveyance:
 Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other _____
Execution Date: March 15, 2004.

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)
09/971,580
Additional number(s) attached Yes No

B. Patent Registration No.(s) (Withdrawing from Issue)
6,723,117 (Issuing April 20, 2004)

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:
Name: Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP
Internal Address:
1300 North Seventeenth Street
Suite 1800
Arlington, VA 22209
USA
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

6. Total number of applications and patents involved 1
7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41)..... \$40
 Enclosed - Credit Card Payment Form
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01-2135
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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.
Donald E. Stout, Reg# 26,422 *Donald E. Stout* 04/15/2004
Name of Person Signing Signature Date
Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 2

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

04/15/2004 BABRAM1 00000051 09971580
03 FC:8021 40.00 OP

ASSIGNMENT	ATTY. DOCKET NO.:
	785.40752X00 ALU100R07US

WHEREAS the below named inventor (if only one inventor is named below) or inventors (if plural inventors are named below) hereinafter referred to as the ASSIGNOR invented a certain improvement relating to

**DEVICE FOR SUPPORTING A SURGICAL STEP IN A VESSEL,
PARTICULARLY FOR REMOVAL AND IMPLANTATION OF HEART VALVES**

for which an application for Letters Patent to be filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office was executed on even date.

X	for which U.S. Application Serial No. 09/971,580	for Letters Patent was filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on
	October 10, 2001	

for which an International Application was filed on _____ as _____, designating the United States.

AND WHEREAS	Universitätsklinikum Freiburg/Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Stefan-Meier-Str. 8, D-79104 Freiburg Germany
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hereinafter referred to as the ASSIGNEE, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title, and interest in and to said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, including any and all renewals, reissues, reexaminations and extensions thereof.

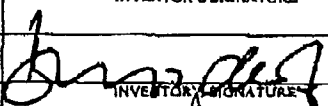

NOW, WITNESSETH that for good and valuable consideration, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, ASSIGNOR hereby assigns, sells, and transfers to ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives, the entire and exclusive right, title and interest in and to said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor, including any and all renewals, reissues, reexaminations and extensions thereof, and in and to any and all priority and/or convention rights or benefits accruing or to accrue with respect to the filing or securing of patents in the United States and/or any countries foreign thereto, SAID ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives to have, hold, exercise, and enjoy said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor, including any and all renewals, reissues, reexaminations and extensions thereof, with all the rights, powers, privileges and advantages in anywise arising from or appertaining thereto, for and during the term or terms of any and all such Letters Patent when granted, including any and all renewals, reissues, reexaminations and extensions thereof, for the use and benefit of ASSIGNEE and its assigns and legal representatives, in as ample and beneficial a manner to all intents and purposes as the ASSIGNOR might or could have held and enjoyed the same, if the assignment had not been made.

AND ASSIGNOR hereby agrees to execute all papers that may be necessary to file applications in the United States and foreign countries for said invention and to assign the same to said ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives and to execute any other papers that may be needed in connection with filing said applications and securing Letters Patents thereon.

AND ASSIGNOR authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue a Letters Patent on said application, and on any and all divisions and continuations thereof, to ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives, in accordance herewith.

The undersigned hereby grant(s) the law firm of Antonelli, Terry, Stout, Kraus, LLP the power to insert on this assignment any further identification which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF this assignment is executed by ASSIGNOR.

201	FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
	Friedhelm BEYERSDORF		3-15-2004
	Georg LÜTTER		2-13-2004
202	FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
203	FULL NAME OF THIRD JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
204	FULL NAME OF FOURTH JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
205	FULL NAME OF FIFTH JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
206	FULL NAME OF SIXTH JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE