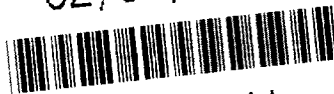


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1. Name of conveying party(ies):
**Dieter WEISSHAUPT, Anton KELLER and
Christoph ROTHWEILER**
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):
Name **Aesculap AG**
Internal Address
Street Address **Am Aesculap-Platz**
City **Tuttlingen**
State
Country **Germany** Zip **78532**
Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes No

3. Nature of conveyance/Execution Date(s):
Execution Date(s):
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 Assignment Merger
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 Other

4. Application or patent number(s): This document is being filed together with a new application
A Patent Application No(s)
12/968,942
B Patent No(s)
Additional numbers attached Yes No

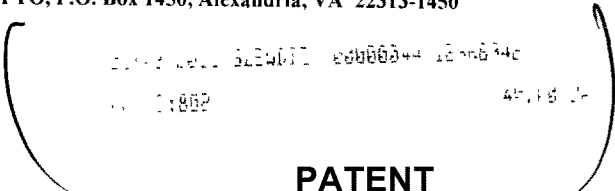
5. Name and address to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:
Name **Douglas M. McAllister**
Internal Address **Lipsitz & McAllister, LLC**
Street Address **755 Main Street, Bldg. No. 8**
City **Monroe**
State **Connecticut** Zip. **06468**
Phone Number **(203) 459-0200**
Fax Number **(203) 459-0201**
Email Address **info@patlawfirm.com**

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: **1**
7. Total fee (37 CFR 1.21(h) & 3.41) **\$ 40.00**
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9. Signature: *Douglas M. McAllister* **January 31, 2011**
Name of Person Signing **Douglas M. McAllister** Date
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PATENT
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ASSIGNMENT

For good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, I/we the undersigned,

Dieter WEISSHAUPT, Anton KELLER and Christoph ROTHWEILER

who, has/have created a certain invention for which an application for United States Letters Patent has been

[] executed concurrently herewith
[X] filed on **December 15, 2010** and assigned application number **12/968,942**

and is entitled **SURGICAL SYSTEM FOR CONNECTING BODY TISSUE**

Do hereby sell, assign and transfer to: **Aesculap AG**

referred to herein as "Assignee", whose address is: **Am Aesculap-Platz
78532 Tuttlingen, Germany**

its successors, assigns, and legal representatives, the full and exclusive right to said invention and said application and to any and all inventions described in said application for the United States and its territorial possessions, and the entire right, title and interest in and to any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor in the United States and its territorial possessions; and in and to any and all continuations-in-part, continuations, divisions, substitutes, reissues, extensions thereof, and all other applications for Letters Patent relating thereto (including prior filed provisional applications) which have been or shall be filed in the United States and/or its territorial possessions, and all rights, together with all priority rights, under any of the international conventions, unions, agreements, acts, and treaties, including all future conventions, unions, agreements, acts, and treaties;

Agree that Assignee may apply for and receive in its own name Letters Patent for said invention and said inventions, hereinafter referred to as said invention, in the United States and its territorial possessions; and that, when requested to carry out in good faith the intent and purpose of this assignment at the expense of said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, the undersigned will execute all continuations-in-part, continuations, divisions, substitutes, reissues, and extensions thereof, execute all rightful oaths, assignments, powers of attorney and other papers, testify in any legal or quasi legal proceedings; communicate to said Assignee, its successors, assigns, and legal representatives all facts known to the undersigned relating to said invention and

the history thereof; and generally do everything possible which said Assignee, its successors, assigns or legal representatives shall consider desirable for aiding in securing, maintaining and enforcing proper patent protection for said invention and for vesting title to said invention and all applications for patents on said invention in said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives; and

Covenant with said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives that no assignment, grant, mortgage, license or other agreement affecting the rights and property herein conveyed has been made to others by the undersigned, and that the full right to convey the same as herein expressed is possessed by the undersigned.

The undersigned hereby grant(s) the law firm of Lipsitz & McAllister, LLC 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 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I/we have hereunto set my/our signature(s) on the date(s) indicated below.

Sandra Gaier
Witness - Signature

SANDRA GAIER
Name of Witness Printed

Sandra Gaier
Witness - Signature

SANDRA GAIER
Name of Witness Printed

Sandra Gaier
Witness - Signature

SANDRA GAIER
Name of Witness Printed

Dieter Weisshaupt (L.S.)
Dieter WEISSHAUPT

Date: 01/20/2011

Anton Keller (L.S.)
Anton KELLER

Date: 01/20/2011

Christoph Rothweiler (L.S.)
Christoph ROTHWEILER

Date: 01/20/2011

Attorney Docket No.: HOEG-1338