

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference END7749WOPCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/US2016/062003	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 15 November 2016 (15-11-2016)	(Earliest) Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 25 November 2015 (25-11-2015)
Applicant ETHICON ENDO-SURGERY, LLC		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 7 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of:

- the international application in the language in which it was filed
- a translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))

b. This international search report has been established taking into account the **rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43.6*bis*(a)).

c. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box No. II)

3. **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box No III)

4. With regard to the **title**,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant
- the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant
- the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2, by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority

6. With regard to the **drawings**,

a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

- as suggested by the applicant
- as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure
- as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention

b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract

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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-13

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61B17/32 A61B18/12 A61B90/00
ADD.
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	US 2011/087212 A1 (ALDRIDGE JEFFREY L [US] ET AL) 14 April 2011 (2011-04-14) abstract paragraphs [0108], [0128], [0140], [0147] - [0151], [0176] - [0203], [0226] - [0228]; figures 1, 11-62 -----	1-5,9, 11-13 6,7,10
A	WO 2013/102058 A1 (ST JUDE MEDICAL ATRIAL FIBRILL [US]) 4 July 2013 (2013-07-04) abstract paragraphs [0032], [0039], [0053] - [0055], [0072]; figures 1-9 -----	1-13
A	US 6 338 657 B1 (HARPER RICHARD M [US] ET AL) 15 January 2002 (2002-01-15) abstract column 10, line 3 - line 24; figures 1-7 ----- -/--	1-13

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search 3 February 2017	Date of mailing of the international search report 06/04/2017
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Ioanovici, T

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 2 641 552 A2 (ETHICON ENDO SURGERY INC [US]) 25 September 2013 (2013-09-25) abstract paragraphs [0076] - [0079], [0082], [0085]; figures 7-13 -----	1-13
A	WO 98/06338 A2 (STRYKER CORP [US]; CULP JERRY A [US]; SCHEMANSKY KEVIN J [US]; MONK DA) 19 February 1998 (1998-02-19) abstract page 41, line 3 - line 10; figures 1, 16, 17, 22-24 -----	1-13

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date	
US 2011087212	A1	14-04-2011	AU 2010303385 A1	03-05-2012
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			BR 112012009383 A2	07-06-2016
			CA 2777103 A1	14-04-2011
			CN 102665585 A	12-09-2012
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			EP 2901940 A2	05-08-2015
			ES 2531014 T3	10-03-2015
			JP 5766705 B2	19-08-2015
			JP 2013507190 A	04-03-2013
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			CA 2809424 A1	22-09-2013
			CN 103315807 A	25-09-2013
			EP 2641552 A2	25-09-2013
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			EP 1674039 A2	28-06-2006
			EP 2210565 A2	28-07-2010
			JP 4118339 B2	16-07-2008
			JP 4895856 B2	14-03-2012
			JP 2001500031 A	09-01-2001
			JP 2007195993 A	09-08-2007
			JP 2012035088 A	23-02-2012
			US 6017354 A	25-01-2000
			US 6090123 A	18-07-2000
			US 6329778 B1	11-12-2001
			US 2002087179 A1	04-07-2002
			US 2004225310 A1	11-11-2004

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Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
		US 2008114388 A1	15-05-2008
		US 2011266124 A1	03-11-2011
		WO 9806338 A2	19-02-1998

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-13

Apparatus comprising a surgical generator capable of receiving usage data from an instrument memory and preventing operation based on the received data, and an adaptor with an override chip configured to modify the set of usage data before it is received by the generator.

2. claims: 14-20

Apparatus comprising a surgical generator with a display capable of receiving usage data from an instrument memory. The generator determines if the instrument will become inoperable after the present use and informs the user about the inoperability of the instrument once the instrument is no longer in use.
