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13/839,242 15 March 2013 (15.03.2013) US(71) Applicant: **ETHICON ENDO-SURGERY, INC.**  
[US/US]; 4545 Creek Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45242 (US).(72) Inventors: **BOUDREAUX, Chad P.**; 10840 Lakehurst Court, Cincinnati, Ohio 45242 (US). **PRICE, Daniel W.**; 185 Overlook Drive, Loveland, Ohio 45140 (US). **KIRK, Jeffery T.**; 7419 Emi Drive, Liberty Township, Ohio 45044 (US). **VASQUEZ, Jose Domingo**; 2560 Madison Road, #8, Cincinnati, Ohio 45208 (US). **DIETZ, Timothy G.**; 2 Elm Ledge, Terrace Park, Ohio 45174 (US). **SMITH, Richard C.**; 1493 Greystone Lane, Milford, Ohio 45150 (US). **ASHER, Ryan M.**; 3556 Lobelia Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45241 (US). **ALDRIDGE, Jeffrey L.**; 106 W. Concord Drive, Lebanon, Ohio 45036 (US). **TIMM, Richard W.**; 2787 Minot Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45209(US). **DAVIS, Craig T.**; 3724 Morris Place, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226 (US).(74) Agents: **JOHNSON, Philip S.** et al.; Johnson & Johnson, One Johnson & Johnson Plaza, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08933 (US).

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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ROTATABLE ELECTRICAL CONNECTION FOR ULTRASONIC SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS

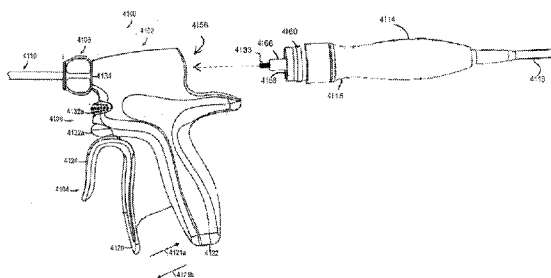


FIG. 94

(57) Abstract: A connector module for an ultrasonic surgical instrument includes a housing having a spindle and a coupling rotatably mounted on the spindle. A first conductor is mechanically coupled to the housing. A first link is rotatable relative to the first conductor between a first position and a second position and includes a first contact positioned to electrically contact the first conductor and a second contact electrically coupled to the first contact and positioned to electrically contact an ultrasonic hand piece.



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27 December 2013

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
INV. A61B17/32 A61B18/12  
ADD. A61B17/00

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 H04L

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	US 6 977 495 B2 (DONOFRIO WILLIAM T [US]) 20 December 2005 (2005-12-20) cited in the application	1,3,11, 12,14
Y	abstract; figures 1-6 column 1, lines 16-22 column 8, line 64 - column 9, line 4 column 13, line 45 - column 14, line 4 column 14, line 47 - column 15, line 20 -----	2,4-10, 13,15-20
Y	EP 2 042 112 A2 (OLYMPUS MEDICAL SYSTEMS CORP [JP]) 1 April 2009 (2009-04-01)	2,4-10, 13,15-20
A	abstract; figures 1-4,37-50 paragraphs [0084], [0093] - [0094], [0098] - [1036] -----	1,11
A	US 5 938 633 A (BEAUPRE JEAN [US]) 17 August 1999 (1999-08-17) cited in the application abstract; figures 2-3,7-9 -----	1,11



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

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"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

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"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

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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

Macaire, Stéphane

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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