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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

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Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))  
— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

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9 August 2012

(54) Title: SURGICAL ENDOSCOPIC DEVICE WITH DETACHABLE CLAMP, CLAMP RETRIEVING DEVICE AND METHOD FOR THEIR USE.

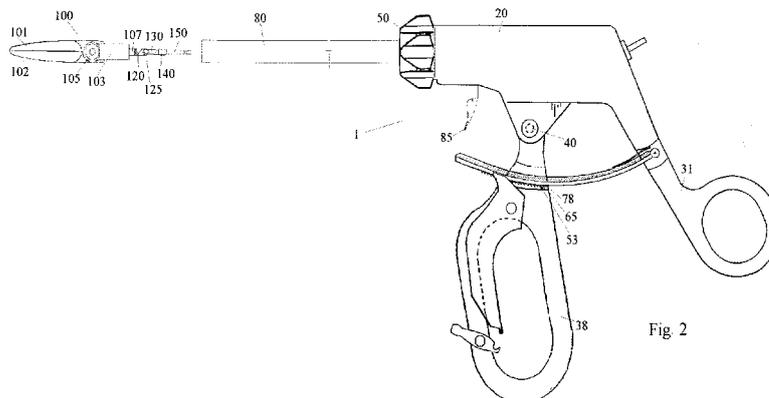


Fig. 2

(57) Abstract: A surgical endoscopic instrument with detachable end tool as a clamp, a clamp retrieving device and a method for their use is provided. The instrument comprises a clamp, removably connected by a coupling to an elongated shaft, this comprising two concentric tubes, which can rotate about each other, connected to a rotating element, that is attached to a housing, inside which a push-pull rod, driven by a handle, transmits the surgeon's commands, leading to the actuating of the end tool's jaws, as well as the clamp detachment/retrieving, from/to the elongated shaft, by operating the coupling, given by the rotation of the concentric tubes about each other, thus resulting in the detachment/attachment of clamp with its jaws blocked in its given position at the time of detachment. The clamp retrieving device consisting of a grasping element, attached through an elongated shaft, consisting of concentric sheaths, to a handle, where the push of a plunger, leads to the sliding of some sheaths in relation to the other(s), and subsequent clamp seizing, clamp jaws release, and clamp retrieval from the human body.



# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/R02011/000011

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

INV. A61B17/128 A61B17/122 A61B17/29  
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

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages  | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| A         | DE 199 25 304 A1 (TENCKHOFF DIRK [DE])<br>30 December 1999 (1999-12-30)<br>page 3, line 23 - page 4, line 50; figures<br>1-6  | 1                     |
| A         | -----   |                       |
| A         | EP 1 654 992 A1 (STORZ ENDOSCOPY AMERICA<br>KARL [US]) 10 May 2006 (2006-05-10)<br>cited in the application<br>paragraph [0030] - paragraph [0037];<br>figures 2a-7 | 1                     |
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| A         | WO 98/00066 A1 (APPLIED MED RESOURCES<br>[US]) 8 January 1998 (1998-01-08)<br>cited in the application<br>page 9, line 10 - page 14, line 21;<br>figures 1-10       | 1                     |
|           | -----   |                       |
|           | -/--  |                       |

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

20 February 2012

Date of mailing of the international search report

15/06/2012

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

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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         | WO 97/20506 A1 (HEARTPORT INC [US])<br>12 June 1997 (1997-06-12)<br>page 28, line 14 - page 31, line 21;<br>figures 25-30<br>-----        | 1                     |
| A         | US 5 368 606 A (MARLOW SCOTT C [US] ET AL)<br>29 November 1994 (1994-11-29)<br>cited in the application<br>abstract; figures 1-8<br>----- | 1                     |
| A         | US 5 749 881 A (SACKIER JONATHAN M [US] ET<br>AL) 12 May 1998 (1998-05-12)<br>abstract; figures 1-17<br>-----                             | 1                     |

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/R02011/000011

## 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.: 10  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery.
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, 3-9

### 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.

**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, 3-9

Surgical endoscopic instrument having detachable end tool as a retrievable clamp.

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2. claim: 2

Retrieving device for retrieving a detachable clamp comprising arm with hook.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/R02011/000011

| Patent document cited in search report | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date          |
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| -----                                  |                  |                         |                           |
| US 5749881                             | A                | 12-05-1998              | NONE                      |
| -----                                  |                  |                         |                           |