

Endologix denies infringing on Bard patent

The Associated Press

Medical device company Endologix Inc. on Tuesday denied that it infringed on a Bard Peripheral Vascular Inc. patent.

Endologix, which is based in Irvine, Calif., said it was responding to a federal lawsuit filed by Bard that alleges infringement on Bard's Prosthetic Vascular Graft patent by the high density ePTFE graft material.

Endologix uses the material in its Powerlink System, an endovascular stent graft that treats abdominal aortic aneurysms, a weakening in the wall of the aorta, the largest artery in the body, which extends from the chest to the abdomen.

Endologix CEO John McDermott said in a statement that before his company developed and made the graft material, it did a "deep and thorough review of the patent landscape" to ensure it was not infringing on intellectual property.

"This included a specific, rigorous review of the Bard Peripheral patent named in the lawsuit, both internally and by outside legal counsel," he said. "Based upon those reviews, we believe the alleged infringement claims are without merit and intend to vigorously defend our position."

Endologix shares climbed 4 cents to \$4.04 in after-hours trading Wednesday.

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