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Synergetics, Alcon ink \$32M licensing deal, settle suit

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Synergetics USA Inc. has struck a \$32 million deal giving **Alcon Laboratories Inc.** the right to sell Synergetics products.

The agreement also settles all litigation between Synergetics and Alcon.

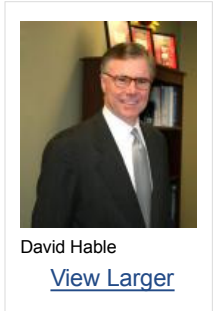
In 2008, Synergetics **filed a civil antitrust lawsuit** against Swiss-based Alcon and its primary operating subsidiary in the U.S., Alcon Laboratories Inc., asserting the company has suffered tens of millions of dollars in damages from Alcon's using its monopoly power to control purchasing decisions in favor of its surgical illumination sources and associated accessories.

Synergetics sought to recover \$100 million through the suit.

Alcon (NYSE: ACL) describes itself as the largest eye-care company in the world.

"We are pleased to be able to enter into a long-term business relationship with Alcon and settle all litigation between the companies," said Synergetics Chairman Robert Dick said in a statement Tuesday. "Synergetics welcomes the opportunity to work with Alcon to provide ophthalmic surgeons throughout the world with select instruments to enhance their armamentarium in the treatment of vitreoretinal diseases."

O'Fallon, Mo.-based Synergetics USA Inc. (Nasdaq: SURG), led by President and Chief Executive David Hable, manufactures and designs medical devices for use in ophthalmic surgery and neurosurgery.



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