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STOCKHOLM, Sweden - Electrolux, the world's biggest maker of household appliances, said Wednesday it would pay \$30 million to settle a lawsuit with a man who sued the company and claimed it pilfered his design for an upright, bagless vacuum cleaner.

The Stockholm-based manufacturer announced that it would make the payment to John North in exchange for his dropping the lawsuit that had been filed in 2002.

Electrolux said it still believed that North's charges had no merit.