

Man claiming Electrolux stole design settles for \$30 million

Associated Press Newswires

20 May 2004

EL PASO, Texas (AP) - An inventor who alleges one of the world's largest appliance makers stole his bagless vacuum cleaner design has accepted \$30 million from the company in an out-of-court settlement.

North, 67, a divorced father of three, on Wednesday told News.Scotsman.com that most of his settlement would be spent on his own design and manufacturing company and for a family holiday, the news site reported.

Electrolux facts

- Electrolux , headquartered in Sweden, has a maquiladora in Juárez that makes vacuum cleaners. It plans to build a factory in Juárez to produce 1.2 million refrigerators a year and employ more than 3,000 workers by 2006.
- The company's 2003 sales were \$17.2 billion, a 12.3 percent increase over 2002.
- Employees : 83,347 worldwide in 2002.

Family Disney trip for payout dad.

Evening Mail & Coventry Evening Telegraph

20 May 2004

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A REFORMED fraudster said he would take his family to Disneyland after winning a £17 million payout from Electrolux, who he claimed stole his invention for a vacuum cleaner.

John North, 67, from Norfolk, accepted the huge out-of-court settlement from the manufacturing giant after a lengthy legal battle.