

engagement of the suction ring with the patient interface of the laser unit. Still another object of the present invention is to provide an interface device that can be quickly and easily activated for disengagement of the device from a patient interface of a laser unit. Yet another object of the present invention is to provide an interface device for engaging a suction ring with a laser unit that is easy to use, is relatively simple to manufacture, and is comparatively cost effective.

## **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

In accordance with the present invention, an interface device is provided for selectively engaging a suction ring with a patient interface of a laser unit. Structurally, the interface device includes an annular shaped base member that defines a plane and is formed with an orifice. The base member has a first side and a second side, with the suction ring affixed against the second side of the base member to surround the orifice, for example, with an interference fit. Alternatively the suction ring may be glued to the base member. Further, as an additional possibility, the base member can be injection molded using a relatively hard material, and the suction ring can be directly injection molded onto the base member, wherein the suction ring is a relatively soft material.

A grip that includes two independently manipulated handles is mounted on the first side of the base member. Two pivot posts are also included as part of the grip. In detail, the two pivot posts are mounted perpendicular to the plane of the base member, and are parallel to each