

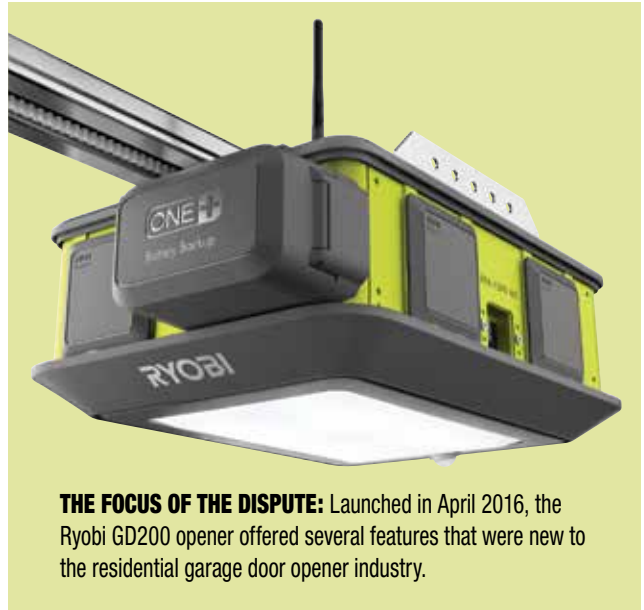
# CHAMBERLAIN SUES RYOBI IN PATENT DISPUTE

In September, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois issued a preliminary injunction against Ryobi in a garage door opener patent dispute that was filed in June by the Chamberlain Group (CGI). Ryobi, a major brand of Techtronic Industries (TTI), has appealed the ruling.

The district court said that Chamberlain had “established a likelihood of success” in proving patent infringement. Chamberlain seeks to stop Techtronic from importing the Ryobi GD200 opener, which is alleged to infringe on five specific CGI patents that involve battery backup, data communication, fault notifications, auto-force settings, and installation methods.

“CGI invests significant resources to bring innovation and technology to our offerings,” said Emily Davis, senior manager of corporate communications. “It is essential that we actively defend our intellectual property and our investments in innovation.”

Hong Kong-based Techtronic makes power tools and equipment, mostly at factories in China. It sells the products globally under brand names such as Ryobi, Homelite, Milwaukee, Dirt Devil, and Hoover. Home Depot is considered one of its major sales outlets. ■



**THE FOCUS OF THE DISPUTE:** Launched in April 2016, the Ryobi GD200 opener offered several features that were new to the residential garage door opener industry.



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