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**Datasheet for the decision  
of 24 November 2010**

**Case Number:** T 1031/10 - 3.2.02

**Application Number:** 03790067.7

**Publication Number:** 1567053

**IPC:** A61B 5/055

**Language of the proceedings:** EN

**Title of invention:**

Magnetic resonance imaging system and methods for the  
detection of brain iron deposits

**Applicants:**

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY  
BETH ISRAEL DEACONESS MEDICAL CENTER

**Opponent:**

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**Headword:**

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**Relevant legal provisions:**

EPC Art. 108  
EPC R. 101(1)

**Relevant legal provisions (EPC 1973):**

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**Keyword:**

"Missing statement of grounds"

**Decisions cited:**

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**Catchword:**

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Case Number: T 1031/10 - 3.2.02

**D E C I S I O N**  
of the Technical Board of Appeal 3.2.02  
of 24 November 2010

**Appellants:**

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY  
1 River Road  
Schenectady  
NY 12345 (US)

BETH ISRAEL DEACONESS MEDICAL CENTER  
330 Brookline Avenue  
Boston  
MA 02215 (US)

**Representative:**

Bedford, Grant Richard  
Global Patent Operation - Europe  
GE International Inc.  
15 John Adam Street  
London WC2N 6LU (GB)

**Decision under appeal:**

**Decision of the Examining Division of the  
European Patent Office posted 25 November 2009  
refusing patent European application  
No. 03790067.7 pursuant to Article 97(2) EPC.**

**Composition of the Board:**

**Chairman:** M. Noël  
**Members:** C. Körber  
M. J. Vogel

## **Summary of Facts and Submissions**

- I. The appellants (applicants) appealed against the decision of the Examining Division posted 25 November 2009 to refuse the European patent application No. 03 790 067.7.
- II. The notice of appeal was received on 28 January 2010 and the appeal fee was paid on the same day. However, no statement of grounds of appeal has been filed within the time limit for doing so, nor did the notice of appeal contain anything that might be considered as such statement.
- III. In a communication dated 4 June 2010 sent by registered post with advice of delivery, the Board informed the representative of the appellants that no statement of grounds of appeal had been filed and that, as a consequence, it was to be expected that the appeal would be rejected as inadmissible. The appellants were also given a time limit of two months for filing observations starting from the date of notification of said communication.
- IV. The communication was notified on 10 June 2010. No observations were filed within the given time limit.

## **Reasons for the Decision**

1. According to Article 108 EPC, a statement setting out the grounds of appeal shall be filed within four months of notification of the decision.

2. If the appeal does not comply with Article 108 EPC, the appeal must be rejected as inadmissible (Rule 101(1) EPC). In the present case, no statement of grounds has been filed and consequently the appeal is rejected as inadmissible.

## **Order**

### **For these reasons it is decided that:**

The appeal is rejected as inadmissible.

The Registrar

The Chairman

D. Sauter

M. Noël