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Datasheet for the decision of 10 March 2015

Case Number: T 2143/14 - 3.5.07

Application Number: 04753346.8

Publication Number: 1642190

IPC: G06F17/00

Language of the proceedings: ΕN

Title of invention:

System and method for drug management utilizing transferable labels

Applicant:

Cardinal Health Technologies, LLC

Headword:

Missing statement of grounds/CARDINAL HEALTH

Relevant legal provisions:

EPC Art. 108 EPC R. 99(2), 101(1)

Keyword:

Admissibility of appeal (no) - missing statement of grounds

Decisions cited:

Catchword:



Beschwerdekammern Boards of Appeal Chambres de recours

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Case Number: T 2143/14 - 3.5.07

DECISION
of Technical Board of Appeal 3.5.07
of 10 March 2015

Appellant: Cardinal Health Technologies, LLC (Applicant) 7690 Cheyenne Avenue, Suite 100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89129 (US)

Representative: Johnson, Richard Alan

Mewburn Ellis LLP 33 Gutter Lane London EC2V 8AS (GB)

Decision under appeal: Decision of the Examining Division of the

European Patent Office posted on 27 May 2014 refusing European patent application No. 04753346.8 pursuant to Article 97(2) EPC.

Composition of the Board:

Chairman R. Moufang
Members: M. Rognoni

P. San-Bento Furtado

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Summary of Facts and Submissions

- I. The appeal is directed against the decision of the Examining Division to refuse European patent application No. 04753346.8, which was announced in oral proceedings on 14 May 2014 and the written reasons of which were posted on 27 May 2014.
- II. The applicant (appellant) filed a notice of appeal on 6 August 2014 and paid the appeal fee on the same day. The notice contained a conditional request for oral proceedings.
- By communication of 17 November 2014, sent by III. registered letter with advice of delivery and received by the appellant on 24 November 2014, the Registry of the Board informed the appellant that it appeared from the file that the written statement of grounds of appeal had not been filed, and that it was therefore to be expected that the appeal would be rejected as inadmissible pursuant to Article 108, third sentence, EPC in conjunction with Rule 101(1) EPC. The appellant was informed that any observations had to be filed within two months of notification of the communication. The appellant was furthermore informed that, unless a statement to the contrary was made by the appellant within the specified time period, the Board would assume that the request for oral proceedings did not apply to the issue of inadmissibility of the appeal since no grounds of appeal had been filed in due time.
- IV. No reply was received within the deadline set.

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Reasons for the Decision

- 1. No written statement setting out the grounds of appeal was filed within the time limit provided by Article 108, third sentence, EPC in conjunction with Rule 126(2) EPC. In addition, neither the notice of appeal nor any other document filed contains anything that could be regarded as a statement of grounds pursuant to Article 108 EPC and Rule 99(2) EPC. Therefore, the appeal has to be rejected as inadmissible (Rule 101(1) EPC).
- 2. Notwithstanding the appellant's conditional request for oral proceedings made in the notice of appeal, the present decision can be taken without the appointment of oral proceedings. Since the appellant has not provided any statement as to the substantive merits of its appeal, has not given any explanation or comments as to why no statement of grounds had been filed, and has not reacted to the Board Registry's notification of an impending rejection of the appeal as inadmissible, the Board considers the initial conditional request for oral proceedings to have become obsolete as a consequence of the subsequent course of action taken. The lack of any response to the Board's notification is considered to be equivalent to an abandonment of the request for oral proceedings (see T 1042/07 of 22 August 2008, point 3 of the reasons; T 234/10 of 25 November 2010, point 2 of the reasons).

Order

For these reasons it is decided that:

The appeal is rejected as inadmissible.

The Registrar:

The Chairman:



I. Aperribay

R. Moufang

Decision electronically authenticated