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**Datasheet for the decision
of 19 June 2026**

Case Number: T 0604/25 - 3.3.05

Application Number: 20172040.6

Publication Number: 3777996

IPC: B01D46/24

Language of the proceedings: EN

Title of invention:

FILTER CARTRIDGE

Patent Proprietor:

Donaldson Company, Inc.

Opponent:

MANN + HUMMEL GmbH

Headword:

Filter cartridge/Donaldson

Relevant legal provisions:

EPC Art. 113(2)

Keyword:

Basis of decision - text or agreement to text withdrawn by
patent proprietor

Decisions cited:

Catchword:



Beschwerdekammern

Boards of Appeal

Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
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Case Number: T 0604/25 - 3.3.05

D E C I S I O N
of Technical Board of Appeal 3.3.05
of 19 June 2026

Appellant: MANN + HUMMEL GmbH
(Opponent) Schwieberdinger Straße 126
71636 Ludwigsburg (DE)

Representative: Maiwald GmbH
Elisenhof
Elisenstraße 3
80335 München (DE)

Respondent: Donaldson Company, Inc.
(Patent Proprietor) 1400 West 94th Street
Bloomington, MN 55431 (US)

Representative: Eisenführ Speiser
Patentanwälte Rechtsanwälte PartGmbH
Johannes-Brahms-Platz 1
20355 Hamburg (DE)

Decision under appeal: **Decision of the Opposition Division of the
European Patent Office posted/electronically
transmitted on 26 February 2025 rejecting the
opposition filed against European patent No.
3777996 pursuant to Article 101(2) EPC.**

Composition of the Board:

Chairwoman O. Loizou
Members: J. Roider
S. Besselmann

Summary of Facts and Submissions

The appeal by the opponent lies from the decision of the opposition division to reject the opposition against European Patent EP 3 777 996 B1.

By declaration of 19 June 2026, filed during the oral proceedings before the Board, the respondent (patent proprietor) disapproved the text for grant and all requests currently on file were withdrawn.

Reasons for the Decision

Under Article 113(2) EPC, the European Patent Office may consider and decide upon the European patent only in the text submitted to it, or agreed, by the proprietor of the patent.

The respondent, by disapproving the text of the patent as granted and withdrawing all requests currently on file, withdrew its approval of any text for maintenance of the patent.

The text of the patent is at the disposition of the patent proprietor. However, there is no text of the patent on the basis of which the board can consider the present appeal.

Where there is no text of the patent on the basis of which the board can consider the present appeal, the patent can only be revoked as envisaged in Article 101 EPC (Case Law of the Boards of Appeal of the EPO, 11th edition 2026, III.B.3.3).

Order

For these reasons it is decided that:

1. The decision under appeal is set aside.
2. The patent is revoked.

The Registrar:

The Chairwoman:



C. Vodz

O. Loizou

Decision electronically authenticated