Datasheet for the decision of 11 November 2009

Case Number: T 0483/09 - 3.2.04
Application Number: 99201280.7
Publication Number: 0934706
IPC: A44B 18/00
Language of the proceedings: EN
Title of invention: Laminated hook fastener
Patentee: VELCRO INDUSTRIES B.V.
Opponent: YKK Corporation
Headword: -
Relevant legal provisions:
EPC Art. 108
EPC R. 101(1)
Relevant legal provisions (EPC 1973): -
Keyword: "Missing statement of grounds"
Decisions cited: -
Catchword: -
DECISION
of the Technical Board of Appeal 3.2.04
of 11 November 2009

Appellant: YKK Corporation
(Opponent)
No. 1, Kanda Izumi-cho
Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo (JP)

Representative: White, Duncan Rohan
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Respondent: VELCRO INDUSTRIES B.V.
(Patent Proprietor)
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Representative: Müller-Boré & Partner
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Decision under appeal: Interlocutory decision of the Opposition
Division of the European Patent Office posted
19 December 2008 concerning maintenance of
European patent No. 0934706 in amended form.

Composition of the Board:
Chairman: M. Ceyte
Members: A. de Vries
T. Bokor
Summary of Facts and Submissions

I. The appeal contests the decision of the Opposition Division of the European Patent Office concerning maintenance of European patent No. 0934706 in amended form. The decision was dispatched by registered letter with advice of delivery to each party on 19 December 2008.

The Appellant (Opponent) filed a notice of appeal on 18 February 2009 and paid the appeal fee on the same day.

No statement setting out the grounds of appeal was filed.

II. By a communication dated 8 June 2009 sent by registered letter with advice of delivery, the Registry of the Board informed the Appellant that no statement of grounds had been filed and that the appeal could be expected to be rejected as inadmissible. The Appellant was invited to file observations within two months.

III. No answer has been given to the Registry's communication.

Reasons for the Decision

As no written statement setting out the grounds of appeal has been filed and the notice of appeal contains nothing that could be regarded as a statement of grounds pursuant to Article 108, third sentence, EPC, the appeal has to be rejected as inadmissible (Article 108, third sentence, EPC in conjunction with Rule 101(1) EPC).
Order

For these reasons it is decided that:

The appeal is rejected as inadmissible.

The Registrar: The Chairman:

G. Magouliotis M. Ceyte