Datasheet for the decision of 22 November 2010

Case Number: T 0893/10 - 3.3.02
Application Number: 04708393.6
Publication Number: 1589956
IPC: A61K 9/70
Language of the proceedings: EN
Title of invention: Transdermal Granisetron
Patentee: Strakan International Limited
Opponents: Harrison Goddard Foote
BOETERS & LIECK
Headword: -
Relevant legal provisions:
EPC Art. 108
EPC R. 101(1)
Relevant legal provisions (EPC 1973): -
Keyword: "Missing statement of grounds"
Decisions cited: -
Catchword: -
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DECISION
of the Technical Board of Appeal 3.3.02
of 22 November 2010

Appellant: Harrison Goddard Foote
(Opponent 01)
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Representative: Taylor, Kate Laura
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Appellant: BOETERS & LIECK
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Representative: Forstmeyer, Dietmar
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Respondent: Strakan International Limited
(Patent Proprietor)
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Decision under appeal: Decision of the Opposition Division of the European Patent Office posted 4 March 2010 rejecting the opposition filed against European patent No. 1589956 pursuant to Article 102(2) EPC.

Composition of the Board:
Chairman: U. Oswald
Members: A. Lindner
L. Bühler
Summary of Facts and Submissions

I. The appeal contests the decision of the Opposition Division dispatched by registered letter with advice of delivery on 4 March 2010, rejecting the opposition.

The appellant (opponent II) filed a notice of appeal in a letter received on 26 April 2010 and paid the fee for appeal on the same day. No statement of grounds was filed.

II. In a communication dated 18 August 2010, sent by registered post, the registrar of the board informed the appellant that no statement of grounds of appeal had been filed and that it was to be expected that it would be rejected as inadmissible. The appellant was informed about the possibility of filing a request for re-establishment of rights under Article 122 EPC and was invited to file observations within two months.

III. No reply was filed to said communication.

Reasons for the Decision

1. Article 108 EPC requires that a statement setting out the grounds of appeal shall be filed within four months of the modification of the decision. Pursuant to Rule 101(1) EPC the appeal shall be rejected as inadmissible if it does not comply with Article 108 EPC.
2. In the present case no document was filed by the appellant which could be regarded as a statement setting out the grounds of appeal. Consequently the appeal has to be rejected as inadmissible.

Order

For these reasons it is decided that:

The appeal is rejected as inadmissible.

The Registrar:     The Chairman:

N. Maslin      U. Oswald