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Datasheet for the decision
of 8 April 2019

Case Number: T 1650/17 - 3.3.06
Application Number: 10765412.1
Publication Number: 2491103
IPC: C11D3/37, C11D17/00
Language of the proceedings: EN

Title of invention:
LAUNDRY COMPOSITIONS

Patent Proprietor:
Unilever PLC, A Company Registered in England and Wales under Company no. 41424
Unilever N.V.

Opponent:
The Procter & Gamble Company

Headword:
Laundry composition/Unilever

Relevant legal provisions:
EPC Art. 108
EPC R. 101(1)
Keyword:
Admissibility of appeal - missing statement of grounds

Decisions cited:

Catchword:
DECISION
of Technical Board of Appeal 3.3.06
of 8 April 2019

Appellant:
The Procter & Gamble Company
One Procter & Gamble Plaza
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 (US)

(Opponent)

Representative:
Peet, Jillian Wendy
Procter & Gamble Technical Centres Limited
Whitley Road
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NE12 9TS (GB)

Respondent:
Unilever PLC, A Company Registered in England
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Unilever House
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London, Greater London EC4Y 0DY (GB)

(Patent Proprietor 1)

Respondent:
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Weena 455
3013 AL Rotterdam (NL)

(Patent Proprietor 2)

Representative:
McHugh, Paul Edward
Unilever Patent Group
Colworth House
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Decision under appeal:
Decision of the Opposition Division of the
European Patent Office posted on 12 May 2017
rejecting the opposition filed against European
patent No. 2491103 pursuant to Article 101(2) EPC.

Composition of the Board:
Chairman       J.-M. Schwaller
Members:       P. Ammendola
               C. Brandt
Summary of Facts and Submissions

I. The appeal from the opponent (hereinafter the "appellant") is directed against the decision of the Opposition Division of 12 May 2017, posted on the same day.

II. The appellant paid the appeal fee on 21 July 2017 and filed a notice of appeal on 24 July 2017.

III. By communication of 16 January 2019, received by the appellant, 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.

IV. The appellant was informed that any observations had to be filed within two months of notification of the communication.

V. No reply was received.

Reasons for the Decision

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).

Order

For these reasons it is decided that:

The appeal is rejected as inadmissible.

The Registrar: The Chairman:

A. Pinna J.-M. Schwaller

Decision electronically authenticated