DECISION
of 16 March 2000

Case Number: T 0798/99 - 3.2.2
Application Number: 89312679.7
Publication Number: 0431224
IPC: C21D 9/02

Language of the proceedings: EN

Title of invention:
Method of manufacturing a leaf of a leaf spring

Patentee:
HORIKIRI SPRING MFG. CO. LTD.

Opponent:
Verband der Deutschen Federnindustrie

Headword:
-

Relevant legal provisions:
EPC Art. 108
EPC R. 65(1)

Keyword:
"Missing Statement of Grounds"

Decisions cited:
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Catchword:
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Case Number: T 0798/99 - 3.2.2

DE C I S I O N
of the Technical Board of Appeal 3.2.2
of 16 March 2000

Appellant: HORIKIRI SPRING MFG. CO. LTD.
(Proprietor of the patent)
Kamitakano 1827-4
Yachiyo-shi
Chiba-ken (JP)

Representative: Clifford, Frederick Alan
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Respondent: Verband der Deutschen Federnindustrie
(Opponent)
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D-58093 Hagen (DE)

Representative: Schröter, Martin, Dipl.-Ing.
Schröter & Haerkamp
Im Tückwinkel 22
D-58636 Iserlohn (DE)


Composition of the Board:
Chairman: W. D. Weiß
Members: R. Ries
R. T. Menapace
Summary of Facts and Submissions

I. In its decision posted on 10 June 1999 the Opposition Division maintained the European patent No. 0 431 224 in amended form.

II. The proprietor of the patent appealed against the decision of the Opposition Division and paid the appeal fee on 10 August 1999.

III. By a communication dated 7 December 1999 and sent by registered post, 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.

IV. The Appellant filed no observations in response to said communication.

Reasons for the Decision

As no written statement setting out the grounds of appeal has been filed, the appeal has to be rejected as inadmissible (Article 108 EPC in conjunction with Rule 65(1) EPC).
Order

For these reasons it is decided that:

The appeal is rejected as inadmissible.

The Registrar: The Chairman:

V. Commare W. D. Weiß