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**D E C I S I O N**  
**of 12 December 2002**

**Case Number:** T 0592/02 - 3.5.2

**Application Number:** 93101435.1

**Publication Number:** 0554804

**IPC:** H02J 3/36

**Language of the proceedings:** EN

**Title of invention:**

Control equipment for high voltage direct current transmission system

**Patentee:**

Hitachi, Ltd.

**Opponent:**

ABB AB

**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 0592/02 - 3.5.2

**D E C I S I O N**  
**of the Technical Board of Appeal 3.5.2**  
**of 12 December 2002**

**Appellant:** Hitachi, Ltd.  
(Proprietor of the patent) 6 Kanda Surugadai 4-chome  
Chiyoda-ku,  
Tokyo 101 (JP)

**Representative:** Beetz & Partner  
Patentanwälte  
Steinsdorfstrasse 10  
D-80538 München (DE)

**Respondent:** ABB AB  
(Opponent) S-721 78 Västerås (SE)

**Representative:** Becker, Kurig, Straus  
Patentanwälte  
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D-80336 München (DE)

**Decision under appeal:** Decision of the Opposition Division of the  
European Patent Office posted 5 April 2002  
revoking European patent No. 0 554 804 pursuant  
to Article 102(1) EPC.

**Composition of the Board:**

**Chairman:** W. J. L. Wheeler  
**Members:** J.-M. Cannard  
B. J. Schachenmann

## **Summary of Facts and Submissions**

- I. The appeal contests the decision of the opposition division revoking the European patent No. 0 554 804. The decision was dispatched by registered letter with advice of delivery on 5 April 2002.

The patent proprietor filed a notice of appeal by letter dated 5 June 2002, received on 5 June 2002, and paid the appeal fee on 5 June 2002. No statement of grounds was filed. The notice of appeal contains nothing that could be regarded as a statement of grounds pursuant to Article 108 EPC.

- II. By a communication sent by registered letter with advice of delivery on 19 September 2002, 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. 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 within the time limit provided by Article 108 EPC in conjunction with Rule 78(2) EPC, the appeal has to be rejected as inadmissible (Rule 65(1)EPC).

**Order**

**For these reasons it is decided that:**

The appeal is rejected as inadmissible.

The Registrar:

The Chairman:

D. Sauter

W. J. L. Wheeler