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DECISION of 13 June 1996

Case Number:

T 0637/94 - 3.3.1

Application Number:

86302898.1

Publication Number:

0202770

IPC:

G03C 7/38

Language of the proceedings: EN

Title of invention:

Light-sensitive silver halide color photographic material

Patentee:

KONICA CORPORATION

Opponent:

Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd.

Headword:

Relevant legal provisions:

EPC Art. 111(1)

Keyword:

"Revocation of European patent as consequence of patentee stating: 'He no longer approves the text in which the patent was granted'."

Decisions cited:

T 0073/84

Catchword:



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Chambres de recours

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Case Number: T 0637/94 - 3.3.1

DECISION of the Technical Board of Appeal 3.3.1 of 13 June 1996

Appellant: (Opponent) Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd

No. 210, Nakanuma Minami Ashigara-shi Kanagawa, 250-01 (JP)

Representative:

Hansen, Bernd, Dr. rer. nat.

Hoffmann, Eitle & Partner Patentanwälte

Postfach 81 04 20 81904 München (DE)

Respondent:

KONICA CORPORATION

(Proprietor of the patent) 26-2, Nishi-shinjuku 1-chome

Shinjuku-ku Tokyo 160 (JP)

Representative:

Wood, Anthony Charles Urquhart-Dykes & Lord 91 Wimpole Street London W1M 8AH

Decision under appeal:

Interlocutory decision of the Opposition Division of the European Patent Office posted 30 May 1994 concerning maintenance of European patent No. 0 202 770 in amended form.

Composition of the Board:

Chairman:

A. J. Nuss .

Members:

R. K. Spangenberg R. E. Teschemacher

Summary of Facts and Submissions

- In a decision posted 30 May 1994, the Opposition Division maintained the European patent No. 0 202 770 in amended form.
- II. On 28 July 1994 the Appellant (Opponent) appealed against this decision and paid the appropriate fee on the respective date. A statement of grounds of appeal was filed on 23 September 1994 in which the Appellant requested that the patent be revoked.
- III. In a letter dated 4 June 1996, the representative of the Respondent (proprietors of the patent) stated: "the proprietor no longer approves the text in which the patent was granted and an amended text will not be submitted".

Reasons for the Decision

- 1. The appeal complies with Articles 106 to 108 and Rule 64 EPC and is admissible.
- The Respondents made it clear through their representative that they no longer approve of the text in which the patent was granted. Since they are not prepared to submit an amended text on which further prosecution of the appeal could be based, the patent must be revoked (see decision T 73/84, OJ EPO 1985, 241).

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Order

For these reasons it is decided that:

- 1. The decision of the Opposition Division is set aside.
- 2. The patent is revoked.

The Registrar:

E. Görgmaier

The Chairman:

A. Nuss