

The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was not written for publication and is not binding precedent of the Board.

Paper No. 16

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

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Ex parte L. DONALD MAUS, TORNEY M. VAN ACKER  
AND MARK E. EHRHARDT

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Appeal No. 2002-2203  
Application 09/584,526

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ORDER REMANDING TO EXAMINER

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On August 22, 2002, a Reply Brief (Paper No. 15) was filed in response to the Examiner's Answer mailed June 20, 2002 (Paper No. 13). Accordingly, there is no indication in the record of whether or not the examiner has considered the Reply Brief.

Section 1.193(b)(1) of the Code of Federal Regulations (1998) states:

(b)(1) Appellant may file a reply brief to an examiner's answer within two months from the date of such examiner's answer..... The primary examiner must either acknowledge receipt and entry of the reply brief or withdraw the final rejection and reopen prosecution to respond to the reply brief.

Therefore, it is

ORDERED that the application is remanded to the Examiner for proper response to the Reply Brief and for such further action as may be appropriate.

Appeal No. 2002-2203  
Application 09/584,526

It is important that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interference be informed promptly of any action affecting the status of the appeal (i.e., abandonment, issue, reopening prosecution).

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
DALE M. SHAW  
Program and Resource Administrator  
(703) 308-9797

DMS:caw

MR. SALVATORE J. CASAMASSIMA  
EXXON MOBIL UPSTREAM RESEARCH COMPANY  
P. O. BOX 2189  
HOUSTON, TX 77252-2189