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From: DGUZA@columbus.rr.com

Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2006 9:28 PM

To: DDP.Comments

Subject: Disclosure Document Program

Dear USPTO Representative:

Although I can't speak for the entire independent inventor community, my personal view is that although the Disclosure Document Program (DDP) concept is good in that it provides credible evidence of conception date and inventorship to the USPTO in cases of interference, independent inventors can achieve the equivalent and actually stronger protection through the use of a properly witnessed inventor's notebook. This is particularly true where witnesses can also attest to evidence of building and testing of an invention and can supply more detailed information than a simple DDP disclosure can. The DDP doesn't require witnesses and is valuable in defense only to the extent of the details within the disclosure. Also, the DDP is destroyed after two years if an application isn't filed. An inventor's notebook signed by witnesses who understand the invention doesn't have such limitations.

To determine one aspect of the value of the DDP, I believe it may be a worthwhile analysis to determine how many DDP submissions have been followed up with patent applications, as well as how many have ultimately been used to determine inventorship and conception dates in the cases of interference. My personal guess is that they are relatively low in number. I do not know how much profit or loss the DDP ultimately provides the USPTO, but I would think personnel and funds would be better utilized to address the growing patent processing backlog if the DDP is dissolved.

Therefore, I would promote the dissolution of the DDP unless someone convinces me of some additional value I have overlooked.

Respectfully submitted,

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