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תאריך  
Date

December 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

Circular Letter No. 76 of Dr. Meir Noam, Registrar of  
Patents, Designs and Trademarks

Classification of Patents as "Green Patents"  
and the giving of preference in their Examination

We would like to draw your attention to a recent Circular Letter issued by the Registrar of Patents regarding the classification of Patents as "Green Patents" and the giving of preference in their Examination.

Said Circular Letter advised the following:

1. Man's progress in the fields of technology, industry and agriculture has brought about a rise in the standard and quality of living, however the occurrences of air, water and soil pollution which has appeared as a result of the accelerated economic development has brought about the disturbance of the delicate balance existing in nature and the decline of environmental quality. The more the world population continues to grow and the standard of living continues to rise, the more the rate of exploitation of the natural resources continues to increase and their quality continues to decrease. In light of the situation, the attitude developed that preserving the environment obligates human society to adopt a series of significant changes. Not only to prevent causing damage but rather beyond "environmental thinking" in its framework it will be possible to move on to alternative exploitation of resources and sources of energy.
2. In the framework of the global efforts to protect planet earth and the quality of the environment, many Patent Offices in the western world are implementing a policy of encouraging the filing of Patent Applications for green means. The Israeli Patent Office sees it correct to adopt this policy, in order to encourage research and development regarding "green" Inventions.

3. Therefore, in accordance with a new Rule, a new Classification is herewith enacted for Patent Applications in the field of environmental quality (hereinafter: "Green Applications").
4. Green Applications are Applications in which the Invention described therein on which the Patent is requested, helps to improve environmental quality, *inter alia* in that it delays the factors of global warming, reduces air or water pollution, advances non-polluting agriculture etc.
5. The Israeli Patent Office will give preference in examining Green Applications and their Examination will commence within three months from the time of their classification as being "Green".
6. An Applicant of an Application for a Patent requesting that his Application will be classified as a Green Application, will annex to the Patent Application a letter clarifying briefly how the Invention described in the Application advances environmental quality.
7. An Applicant who is convinced that an Application, which was filed before the issuing of the present Circular Letter and whose Examination has not yet begun, is a Green Application, is entitled to file a request to classify the Application as a Green Application.
8. The Examiner will advise the Applicant about his decision whether to classify the Application as Green and when it is anticipated to begin the Examination. The Decision of the Examiner may be contested.
9. In order to remove any doubt, an Application which will be classified as a "Green Application" will not be charged with an Accelerated Examination Fee.
10. This Circular Letter will come into force on December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Therefore should an Application consist of a "Green Invention," please advise in order to request accelerated Examination in accordance with the present Circular Letter.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require further assistance and/or clarification.

Yours very truly,  
**DR. YITZHAK HESS & PARTNERS**