

**THIS OPINION WAS NOT WRITTEN FOR PUBLICATION**

The opinion in support of the decision being entered today  
(1) was not written for publication in a law journal and  
(2) is not binding precedent of the Board.

MAILED

JUL 11 1996

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT  
BOARD OF APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

*Ex parte* MICHAEL D. ARMACOST,  
STEVEN A. GRUNDON, DAVID L. HARMON,  
SON V. NGUYEN AND JOHN F. REMBETSKI

Appeal No. 95-2477  
Application 07/678,475

ON BRIEF

Before GOLDSTEIN, GARRIS, and TURNER, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

GOLDSTEIN, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

**DECISION ON APPEAL**

This appeal is from the examiner's final rejection of claims 1 to 15. Claims 16 and 17 have been allowed, and claims 18 to 21 have been withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner under 37 CFR §1.142(b).

<sup>1</sup> Application for patent filed April 1, 1991.

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A copy of illustrative claim 1 is reproduced below:

1. A process for selectively depositing a conformal polymer coating on a substrate, comprising:

forming a patterned film on said substrate, so as to expose selected areas of said substrate, said film being formed by treating said substrate with a compound having strong electron donor characteristics; and

exposing said patterned film and said substrate to the vapor of a monomer under such conditions as to condense said monomer to form a conformal polymer coating on said selected areas not covered by said patterned film, said film inhibiting substantial deposition of said coating thereon.

The sole reference relied upon by the examiner is:

Fiore et al. (Fiore)                      4,784,881                      Nov. 15, 1988

All of the appealed claims have been finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Fiore. We shall not affirm this rejection.

We agree with appellants that the examiner has clearly erroneously interpreted the disclosure of the Fiore patent. We find no disclosure of any polymer film forming inhibition over and above the normally occurring adhesion problems with different substrates (column 1, lines 36 to 51). The only mention of halogen occurs as a substituent in the phosphoric acid adhesion promoter, as a substituent on the polymer forming monomer compound itself and as a substituent on solvent molecules. Thus,

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no prima facie case of obviousness has been made out, and the decision of the examiner was clearly erroneous and must be reversed.

The decision of the examiner is reversed.

**REVERSED**

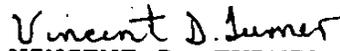


MELVIN GOLDSTEIN )  
Administrative Patent Judge )



BRADLEY R. GARRIS )  
Administrative Patent Judge )

) BOARD OF PATENT  
) APPEALS AND  
) INTERFERENCES

  
VINCENT D. TURNER )  
Administrative Patent Judge )

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