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From: Keith Mullin [mailto:keithm@makeideas.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2006 7:32 PM

To: AB94Comments

Subject: Claim changes

<<...>>

Sincerely,

Keith Mullin

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September 14th, 2005

Mail Stop Comments—Patents
John Doll
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450

RE: PROPOSED RULE CHANGES ON CLAIMS EXAMINATION

Dear Commissioner Doll,

I am an independent inventor and a product developer. My funds come from savings, loans and my mortgage. I have a very limited budget for development and marketing of my invention. All of my patent costs come out of my limited budget.

I understand that the proposed rule changes on claims examination will drastically increase my costs for obtaining a patent, while at the same time restricting the protection I pay for.

I understand that even though I paid for twenty claims to be examined, the examiners will only examine ten claims.

I understand that the proposed rule will force me to file many additional applications all on the same day to cover my invention.

I want you to understand that the proposed rules will increase my personal debt and limit my ability to place products on the market.

Rather than the changing the continuation rules, I recommend that you continue to increase rate of hiring of examiners and redirect the fees to training, salaries, and retention. As the examiner force increases, the number of examiners you can hire and train each year will also increase. By your own numbers, the recent increases in examiner hiring has stabilized the time to examine applications. Continuing to hire at the present rate will inevitably drive that time down. Thank you for your consideration of my recommendation.

Sincerely,



Keith Mullin
President