

PATENTS ACT 1977

IN THE MATTER OF patent application
GB 9819635.5 in the name of
Ian Mann

FINAL DECISION

1. Application number GB 9819635.5 entitled "Cushioning pad" was filed on 10 September 1998 in the name of Ian Mann and relates to a grip to make the carrying of shopping bags or parcels more comfortable.
2. In my oral interim decision of 7 April 2003, I found that the claims of the application involved an inventive step as required by section 1(1)(b) of the Act. However, I noted that the examiner had deferred certain issues of clarity and consistency pending resolution of the inventive step objection such that the application could not be granted as it stood.
3. Although the period allowed to put the application in order expired on 10 March 2003, under Rule 110(3), Mr Mann had the right to extend that period by one month ie until 10 April 2003, on payment of the requisite form and fee, should he wish to file further amendments. To allow Mr Mann the opportunity to put the application in order, I said I would defer my final decision until after 10 April 2003.
4. Mr Mann subsequently filed further amendments plus Form 52/77 and fee by the due date. Following further substantive examination, the examiner (Dr Clarke) reported that the application as amended complied with the Act and Rules.
5. I therefore direct that GB 9819635.5 may proceed to grant.

Appeal

6. Although it is purely of academic interest, for completeness, I should add that the period for appeal is 14 days.

Dated this 25th Day of April 2003

MRS SUSAN CHALMERS
Deputy Director, acting for the Comptroller

THE PATENT OFFICE