



20 July 2011

PATENTS ACT 1977

PARTIES Lucasfilm Entertainment Company Ltd

ISSUE Mention of additional inventor for
patent number GB2438783 under
Section 13

HEARING OFFICER A BUSHELL

DECISION

- 1 US patent application number US60/662,973 filed 16 March 2005 named two inventors Steve Sullivan and Colin Davidson. Following the international phase of international patent application number PCT/US2006/009787, patent application number GB 0718003.7 entered the national phase in the UK. The application, filed in the name of Lucasfilm Entertainment Company Limited was published as GB 2438783 and named the same two inventors.
- 2 Lucasfilm Entertainment Company Limited, the patent proprietor, has now made an application under rule 10(2) of the Patents Rules 2007 to the effect that Michael Sanders and Kevin Wooley should also have been named as joint inventors.
- 3 In their letter to the Office dated 30 November 2010 the patent proprietors advised that they have tried to contact Colin Davidson in order to obtain consent to the application but have been unable to contact him. In the absence of consents from both existing named inventors, the Office wrote to the existing named inventors and allowed them a period of six weeks to file a counter-statement should they wish to oppose the applications. No response was received from Colin Davidson. The letter addressed to Steve Sullivan was returned to the office marked "Return to Sender".
The Office contacted the proprietor and requested an updated address for Steve Sullivan which the proprietor provided in their letter dated 18 February 2011. The application under rule 10(2) was re served to Steve Sullivan at the new address allowing him a period of six weeks to file a counter- statement should he wish to oppose the applications. No response was received.
- 4 As no response was received from either Steve Sullivan or Colin Davidson, the Office wrote again explaining that subject to any comments they might wish to

make, the applications would be treated as unopposed. Neither Steve Sullivan or Colin Davidson have responded within the period set by the Office. In view of the fact that Steve Sullivan and Colin Davidson have failed to file a response and given that consent to the application has been filed by each of the parties having an interest in this matter, I therefore consider the application to be unopposed. I also direct, in accordance with rule 14(5) that an addendum slip be prepared for the published application and granted patent for the invention, the slip to mention Michael Sanders and Kevin Wooley as joint inventors.

A BUSHELL

B3 Head of Litigation Section, acting for the Comptroller