



19 April 2012

PATENTS ACT 1977

PARTIES Lucasfilm Entertainment Company Ltd,
Michael Sanders, Kevin Wooley, Colin
Davidson and Steve Sullivan

ISSUE Mention of additional inventors for
patent number GB2466389 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 A divisional application GB 1000548.6 naming the same two inventors was subsequently filed and published as GB2466389. Following the grant of GB2466389 amendments were made which introduced features into the claims that arose as a result of inventive contributions from two further individuals, Kevin Wooley and Michael Saunders.
- 3 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 in the granted patent.
- 4 In their letter to the Office dated 29 November 2011 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 consent from both Colin Davidson and Steve Sullivan, the Office wrote to them both allowing 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".

- 5 The Office contacted the proprietor and requested an updated address for Steve Sullivan which the proprietor provided in their letter dated 30 January 2012. 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.
- 6 As no response was received from either Steve Sullivan or Colin Davidson the application is treated as unopposed. 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 and find that Michael Sanders and Kevin Wooley should be mentioned as joint inventors in the granted patent for the invention. I also direct, in accordance with rule 14(5) that an addendum slip be prepared for the granted patent for the invention to mention Michael Sanders and Kevin Wooley as joint inventors.

A R BUSHELL

B3 Head of Litigation Section, acting for the Comptroller