PATENTS ACT 1977

IN THE MATTER OF an application by Deepwater Oil Services Limited to amend the specification of Patent No 2165286 and IN THE MATTER OF an opposition thereto by The Red Baron (Oil Tools Rental) Limited

DECISION

In my interim decision dated 30 January 1992, I found that with one exception the patentees' proposals for amendment were allowable. The exception was that I found that the proposed words "means for selectively moving said distal ends transversely into and out of said engagement" in claim 1 were not supported by the description. I therefore allowed a period of two months for a consequential amendment to be proposed. Proposed amendments were filed by the patentees on 20 February and no objections to them have been filed by the opponents.

In the amendments now offered, the words "means for selectively moving said distal ends transversely into and out of said engagement" are replaced in Claim 1 by "each arm being mounted so that the segment at its distal end is movable transversely into and out of said engagement", and the statement of invention on page 2 is amended to correspond with the new version of Claim 1.

I am satisfied that the new form of words is allowable, and in these circumstances, I allow the application to amend the patent subject to the patentees filing within two months of the date of this decision a copy of the specification incorporating the amendments and complying with Rule 40(7) of the Patents Rules 1990.

In all the circumstances of this case I make no award as to costs.

Dated this 22 day of April 1992

W J LYON

Superintending Examiner, acting for the Comptroller

PATENT OFFICE