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80298 Munich

Application number: EP 12 181 965.0
Publication number: EP 2 530 008
Appeal no.: T2635/19-3.2.01
Title: A vessel with an improved foreship arrangement
Proprietor: Ulstein Design & SolutionsAS
Opponent: Verkfræðistofan Skipatækni ehf.
Our ref.: U60002PCT-EP/A/EI

In receipt of the office action of April 16, 2020, together with the submission of April 8, 2020, on behalf of the opponent/respondent we supplement our arguments as follows:

To II.1.: Main request

To point II.1: Point 13. of the decision of the Opposition Division

The decision of the Opposition Division focused on feature complex **E** of claim 1 of the patent in dispute (EP 2 530 008 B1), which is exclusively discussed in the following. For reasons of clarity, feature **E** will be sub-divided only into two parts, wherein the first part consist of the two features **E1** and **E2** defined by the Opposition Division:

Features **E-I**: *“so as to provide a decreasing buoyancy increase [...]”*

Feature **E-II**: *“[...] in the upward direction from a position at or above the design water line (T_{dwl}).”*

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