



Geschäftsleitung
General Management

Hymmen GmbH Maschinen- und Anlagenbau • Postfach 10 15 13 • D-33515 Bielefeld

To our esteemed customers
and suppliers

17 July 2020
RP-Hs

Industrial Inkjet - digital printing from Hymmen
Many years of research and development - patent protection

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Hymmen has been active in research and development in the field of industrial digital printing since 2007. Already at that time we were of the opinion that among others the production of digitally printed laminate flooring as well as other surfaces would become more and more popular in the future. The expected market development actually started. With our own development department and our specialists, we designed digital printing systems that we then presented at LIGNA 2009.

Currently we expect a worldwide production of printed surfaces on Hymmen JUPITER digital printing machines of well over 100 million m²/year. Digital printing will be the future in the market worldwide!

In the last 13 years Hymmen has invested a lot of effort in research and development for its customers, has developed several new processes and has applied for protection rights for the protection of our intellectual property. In the field of digitally printed surfaces alone, including the digital structuring of surfaces, Hymmen currently owns a considerable number of national and international industrial property right applications, of which a large part after examination by the responsible authorities has already been granted.

For your information, we have attached an extract of the most important IP rights/applications in the annex to this letter.



Geschäftsleitung
General Management

For us as a supplier of industrial digital printing systems, it is important that our customers and our partners from the lacquer industry can operate their systems safely. To this end, we are at your side with our experience and expertise.

For this reason, our experts regularly monitor our competitors and other market participants for decorative and digitally printed surfaces. Where we deem it necessary, we will take actions to protect our intellectual property. For your information we would therefore like to inform you about the following decision from Hymmen:

On April 14, 2020 Hymmen GmbH filed a patent infringement suit against Barberán S.A. at the District Court in Düsseldorf (File No. 4b O 26/20). The first matter at issue is the infringement of two industrial property rights of Hymmen GmbH:

1. The first patent in suit is the German part of European patent EP 3 109 056, the German file number is DE 50 2016 000 571.0. The patent is in force. There is an ongoing opposition to the grant of the patent, but Hymmen GmbH is of the clear opinion, that as a final result the patent will remain in force.

The subject matter of the patent covers a process for producing a structure on a surface of a flat workpiece, as well as a device for producing this structure. Contested is the offer of devices of the "Jetmaster" series by Barberán S.A., which – in particular under the designation "Jetmaster TXT" or "Jetmaster TRT" – serve to apply the patented structure coating as so-called "True Texture" characteristic.

2. The second patent in suit is the German part of the European patent EP 2 313 281, the German file number is DE 50 2010 001 024.6. This patent is in force as well. After an opposition motion, by decision of December 14, 2014, the European Patent Office has maintained the patent with slight changes in the content.

The appeal directed against this decision was withdrawn by the opponent. Therefore, the opposition motion in this case has finally come to an end, and the patent remains rightfully in force. This patent is enforced against Barberán S.A. in the version confirmed by the Opposition Division.

The subject matter of the patent covers a process for decorative coating of flat workpieces. Contested are devices from Barberán S.A. (e.g. devices of the "Jetmaster" series 1260 or 1890 "single pass").

An extension of the infringement action to further property rights of Hymmen GmbH is basically possible.



Geschäftsleitung
General Management

Unfortunately, due to the activities of Barberán S.A. since last year 2019, we see ourselves forced to take this step in order to protect the interests of Hymmen GmbH as well as those of our customers and our partners on the side of the lacquer manufacturers.

We may also file other patent infringement suits against other market participants in the future where we deem it necessary.

So far for your general information.

For further questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Hymmen GmbH
Maschinen- und Anlagenbau

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Pankoke".

Dr. René Pankoke
geschäftsführender Gesellschafter / CEO

Appendix



Geschäftsleitung
General Management

Intellectual property of Hymmen in the field of digital printing

List of IP rights/applications

| N° | Application number | Application date | Publication | granted |
|----|-----------------------|------------------|-------------|------------|
| 1 | DE 10 2009 003 443 B4 | 05.02.2009 | 19.08.2010 | 16.04.2015 |
| 2 | DE 10 2009 003 445 B4 | 05.02.2009 | 09.09.2010 | 06.09.2012 |
| 3 | DE 10 2009 003 444 B4 | 05.02.2009 | 09.12.2010 | 16.04.2015 |
| 4 | DE 10 2009 043 812 | 19.08.2009 | 10.03.2011 | |
| 5 | EP 2 313 281 B1 | 11.08.2010 | 27.04.2011 | 11.07.2012 |
| 6 | DE 10 2009 044 091 B4 | 23.09.2009 | 07.07.2011 | 23.08.2018 |
| 7 | EP 2 480 416 B1 | 21.09.2010 | 01.08.2012 | 08.04.2020 |
| 8 | EP 2 367 691 B1 | 21.09.2010 | 28.09.2011 | 20.03.2013 |
| 9 | DE 10 2009 044 802 B4 | 07.12.2009 | 15.12.2011 | 23.11.2017 |
| 10 | EP 2 507 063 B1 | 04.11.2010 | 10.10.2012 | 10.09.2014 |
| 11 | EP 2 431 190 B1 | 04.07.2011 | 21.03.2012 | 11.09.2013 |
| 12 | DE 10 2010 060 950 B4 | 01.12.2010 | 06.06.2012 | 22.01.2015 |
| 13 | DE 10 2011 051 021 | 10.06.2011 | 13.12.2012 | |
| 14 | EP 2 718 108 B1 | 09.05.2012 | 16.04.2014 | 17.08.2016 |
| 15 | DE 10 2012 103 761 | 27.04.2012 | 31.10.2013 | |
| 16 | DE 10 2013 112 275 B4 | 07.11.2013 | 07.05.2015 | 12.12.2019 |
| 17 | DE 10 2015 109 774 | 18.06.2015 | 22.12.2016 | |
| 18 | DE 10 2015 110 236 | 25.06.2015 | 29.12.2016 | |
| 19 | EP 3 109 056 B1 | 27.05.2016 | 28.12.2016 | 14.02.2018 |
| 20 | DE 20 2016 008 502 U1 | 27.05.2016 | 19.04.2018 | |
| 21 | DE 10 2015 110 268 | 25.06.2015 | 29.12.2016 | |
| 22 | DE 20 2017 103 294 U1 | 31.05.2017 | 11.10.2018 | |
| 23 | DE 10 2017 113 035 B4 | 13.06.2017 | 13.12.2018 | 31.10.2019 |



Geschäftsleitung
General Management

| N° | Application number | Application date | Publication | granted |
|----|-----------------------|------------------|-------------|------------|
| 24 | EP 3 415 317 B1 | 14.03.2018 | 19.12.2018 | 26.02.2020 |
| 25 | CN 110267813 | 20.09.2019 | 26.09.2019 | |
| 26 | DE 10 2017 113 036 B4 | 13.06.2017 | 13.12.2018 | 31.10.2019 |
| 27 | EP 3 415 318 B1 | 16.03.2018 | 19.12.2018 | 26.02.2020 |
| 28 | EP 3 415 316 B1 | 19.02.2018 | 19.12.2018 | 08.04.2020 |
| 29 | US2020023662 A1 | 13.06.2018 | 23.01.2020 | |
| 30 | CN 110290925 | 27.09.2019 | 09.10.2019 | |
| 31 | DE 20 2018 006 283 U1 | 19.02.2018 | 27.02.2020 | |
| 32 | EP 3 415 319 B1 | 19.04.2018 | 19.12.2018 | 01.01.2020 |
| 33 | EP 3 666 525 A1 | 19.02.2018 | 17.06.2020 | |