

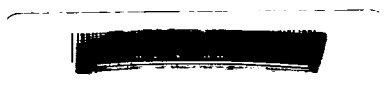
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD



MAPLE LEAF TECHNOLOGIES INC. AND)
MAPLE LEAF FARMS, INC.,)
Opposer,)
v.)
MAPLE LEAF FOODS INC.,)
Applicant.)

Opposition No. 91157889
Serial No. 76/456,399
Mark: MAPLE LEAF PRIME
NATURAL and Design



03-10-2004

U.S. Patent & TMOfc/TM Mail RcptDt. #22

RESPONSE TO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

Applicant requests that the attached answer to the notice of opposition be accepted.


The notice of opposition was filed at the same time a civil proceeding was initiated by the Opposer against Applicant in U.S. District Court in Indiana. The undersigned was advised by Canadian counsel for Applicant that the firm retained to represent Applicant in the civil litigation was also filing an answer in this opposition proceeding. Until the undersigned received the order to show cause, it was believed that a response to the notice of opposition had been filed.

Additionally, the undersigned has been informed that the Opposer and Applicant entered into a settlement agreement in the civil litigation which also settled this proceeding. Therefore, Applicant expects that if its answer is accepted, the parties will officially resolve this proceeding by filing the appropriate documents to amend the application according to the settlement agreement.

Accordingly, Applicant requests that its late-filed answer be accepted and that a notice of default not be entered against it in this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 10, 2004


By: 

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the Response to Order to Show Cause was mailed, first-class, postage prepaid, this 10th day of March 2004, to:

Clifford W. Browning, Esq.
Woodard Emhardt et al. LLP
Bank One Center/Tower
111 Monument Circle, Suite 3700
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-5137


Maria v. Hardison

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ANSWER TO NOTICE OF OPPOSITION

COMES NOW Applicant, Maple Leaf Foods Inc., and answers Opposer's correspondingly numbered paragraphs of the Notice of Opposition in the above-noted proceeding.

1. Applicant is without sufficient information or knowledge to either admit or deny the averments, and, therefore, denies them.

WHEREFORE, Applicant requests that Opposer's opposition be dismissed with prejudice.

Respectfully submitted,

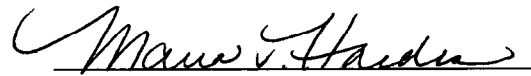
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