

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Trademark Trial and Appeal Board
P.O. Box 1451
Alexandria, VA 22313-1451

MBA

Mailed: April 24, 2008

Opposition No. 91182633

Miller Products Company

v.

Kyle Shimabukuro

Michael B. Adlin, Interlocutory Attorney:

The parties' stipulation to extend time for discovery and testimony, filed April 23, 2008, is **DENIED**. Where, as in this case, the pleadings are closed, the Board will not extend the time for the required discovery conference. Miscellaneous Changes to Trademark Trial and Appeal Board Rules, 72 Fed. Reg. 42,242, 42,245, 42,255 (August 1, 2007). Dates remain as previously set. After the discovery conference is conducted, the Board will entertain a motion to suspend.

News from the TTAB

The USPTO published a notice of final rulemaking in the Federal Register on August 1, 2007, at 72 F.R. 42242. By this notice, various rules governing Trademark Trial and Appeal Board inter partes proceedings are amended. Certain amendments have an effective date of August 31, 2007, while most have an effective date of November 1, 2007. For further information, the parties are referred to a reprint of the final rule and a chart summarizing the affected rules, their changes, and effective dates, both viewable on the USPTO website via these web addresses:

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<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/sol/notices/72fr42242.pdf>
http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/sol/notices/72fr42242_FinalRuleChart.pdf

By one rule change effective August 31, 2007, the Board's standard protective order is made applicable to all TTAB inter partes cases, whether already pending or commenced on or after that date. However, as explained in the final rule and chart, this change will not affect any case in which any protective order has already been approved or imposed by the Board. Further, as explained in the final rule, parties are free to agree to a substitute protective order or to supplement or amend the standard order even after August 31, 2007, subject to Board approval. The standard protective order can be viewed using the following web address:
<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/dcom/ttab/tbmp/stndagmnt.htm>
