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**EX PARTE REEXAMINATION COMMUNICATION TRANSMITTAL FORM**

REEXAMINATION CONTROL NO. 90/007,209.

PATENT NO. 5969156.

ART UNIT 1600.

Enclosed is a copy of the latest communication from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above identified *ex parte* reexamination proceeding (37 CFR 1.550(f)).

Where this copy is supplied after the reply by requester, 37 CFR 1.535, or the time for filing a reply has passed, no submission on behalf of the *ex parte* reexamination requester will be acknowledged or considered (37 CFR 1.550(g)).



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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
90/007,209	09/17/2004	5969156		3367

7590 12/02/2004

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EXAMINER

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 12/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Order Granting / Denying Request For Ex Parte Reexamination</b>	<b>Control No.</b> 90/007,209	<b>Patent Under Reexamination</b> 5969156	
	<b>Examiner</b> Deborah C Lambkin	<b>Art Unit</b> 1626	

**--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

The request for *ex parte* reexamination filed 17 September 2004 has been considered and a determination has been made. An identification of the claims, the references relied upon, and the rationale supporting the determination are attached.

Attachments: a)  PTO-892,      b)  PTO-1449,      c)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

1.  The request for *ex parte* reexamination is GRANTED.

**RESPONSE TIMES ARE SET AS FOLLOWS:**

For Patent Owner's Statement (Optional): TWO MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication (37 CFR 1.530 (b)). **EXTENSIONS OF TIME ARE GOVERNED BY 37 CFR 1.550(c).**

For Requester's Reply (optional): TWO MONTHS from the date of service of any timely filed Patent Owner's Statement (37 CFR 1.535). **NO EXTENSION OF THIS TIME PERIOD IS PERMITTED.** If Patent Owner does not file a timely statement under 37 CFR 1.530(b), then no reply by requester is permitted.

2.  The request for *ex parte* reexamination is DENIED.

This decision is not appealable (35 U.S.C. 303(c)). Requester may seek review by petition to the Commissioner under 37 CFR 1.181 within ONE MONTH from the mailing date of this communication (37 CFR 1.515(c)). **EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE SUCH A PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.181 ARE AVAILABLE ONLY BY PETITION TO SUSPEND OR WAIVE THE REGULATIONS UNDER 37 CFR 1.183.**

In due course, a refund under 37 CFR 1.26 ( c ) will be made to requester:

- a)  by Treasury check or,  
b)  by credit to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_, or  
c)  by credit to a credit card account, unless otherwise notified (35 U.S.C. 303(c)).

cc:Requester ( if third party requester )

Art Unit: 1626

A substantial new question of patentability affecting claims 1-44 of United States Patent Number 5,969,156 is raised by the request for *ex parte* reexamination.

Specifically, prior art references of Mills'104 and Roth'995 teach different forms of Lipitor not considered during prosecution of the Briggs'156 patent in question.

Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) will not be permitted in these proceedings because the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 apply only to "an applicant" and not to parties in a reexamination proceeding. Additionally, 35 U.S.C. 305 requires that *ex parte* reexamination proceedings "will be conducted with special dispatch" (37 CFR 1.550(a)). Extensions of time in *ex parte* reexamination proceedings are provided for in 37 CFR 1.550(c).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Deborah C Lambkin whose telephone number is 571-272-0698.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph McKane can be reached on 571-272-0699.

  
DEBORAH C. LAMBKIN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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