

Our Ref: RSC\11\Hoech-009

Your Ref:

1 May 1996

Fuerst Day Lawson Verney
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EC3N 1LN

F.A.O Mr Peter Gough

BY FAX

Dear Sirs

HOECHST UNITED KINGDOM PATENT No 1 568 875.
HOECHST EUROPEAN PATENT No 0 155 634.

We act on behalf of Hoechst AG. You wrote to Dr Muller from our client on the 17 April 1995 enquiring about the possibility of obtaining a licence under our client's patents. Our client is the proprietor of two patents concerned with Acetosulphame.

The first is United Kingdom patent No 1 568 875 is for the combination of Acetosulphame with another Intense Sweetener (taken from aspartyl peptide esters, sulphamate sweeteners, sulphimide sweeteners and dihydrochalcone sweeteners). This patent will expire in June 1997.

This patent is currently in its 'licence of right period', which means in effect that any one can apply to the Patent Office for a licence under the patent. The terms of the licence, including a royalty rate, would be settled by the Comptroller General of the Patent Office, but only in the absence of any agreement between the parties. The second patent, European patent No 0 155 634, is for a process by which Acetosulphame may be manufactured. This will not expire until March 2004.

As a matter of commercial policy our client does not licence its technology, and it is for that reason that it will not licence its European process patent No 0 155 634. However, as the United Kingdom patent is marked 'licences of right', our client will consider granting a licence on its standard terms.

Before, our client is willing to send you a copy of its standard terms, we have been instructed to contact you and ask for further details on your company and its operations. We would be grateful if you could send us copies of your commercial brochure or corporate literature. Once we have these together with any other details you are able to provide we will be able to send you a copy of our client's licence.

Yours faithfully

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