INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
OFFICE OF SINGAPORE

**Answer Guidelines to QE 2010 Paper B**

Note: The answer guidelines contain a non-exhaustive list of points which examiners expect candidates to cover in the answer to this Paper.

| **Proposed Marking Schedule** |
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| **Question 1**<br><br>Provides basis for the amendments of the claims in the draft response:<br>- Claim 1<br>- New dependent claims<br><br>1. Novelty<br>Submission of why proposed claim 1 is new:<br>i) over D1;<br>ii) over D2 |
| 2. Inventive Step<br>Submission of why proposed claim 1 involves an inventive step:<br>i) over D1;<br>ii) over D2;<br>iii) D1 and D2 in combination<br>- D1+D2<br>- D2+D1<br><br>Heavier weightage is proposed here compared to novelty – this is where the skills of a patent agent are important. Also, marks should be awarded for persuasive arguments and not general statements such as “D1 does not teach or suggest feature A and thus, claim 1 is inventive” – this would not suffice. |
| **<u>Address the clarity objections</u>**<br><br>Lack of support<br><br>First and Second chambers |
| **<u>Exemplary Claim Amendments</u>**<br><br>Claim 1<br>A shower head for selectively adding liquid soap to shower water, comprising<br>an inlet for channeling the water into the shower head;<br>an outlet for dispensing the water from the shower head;<br>an integrally formed reservoir for storing the liquid soap and having |

perforations;
a first and a second chamber; the second chamber and the reservoir being in fluid communication via the perforations;

a flow selector for selectively directing the water from the inlet to the second chamber in which the water flow draws/sucks out the liquid soap via the perforations and into the second chamber for mixing with the water flow prior to dispensing the mixed water and liquid soap from the outlet; or to the first chamber in which only the water is dispensed from the outlet.

Claim 4
To transpose the “first” and “second” chambers?

Claim 5
To delete in view of amendment to claim 1

**<u>Possible new dependent claims/fall-back claims</u>**

A plug having a one-way valve

Partition wall connected to the outlet and to the pivot pin

Reservoir disposed at the nozzle of the shower head adjacent the outlet

**Question 2: Advice to client**

1. Explain to client why the Examiner is correct

2. Explain why you have chosen the proposed amendment – covers the commercial product? Covers the next batch of production?

3. Explain why you need to address the clarity objection

4. Explain why you did not go with the suggested feature:

   i) titanium
   ii) integrally formed
   iii) reservoir is inside the shower head
   iv) reservoir is inside the handle

5. Explain the purpose of the fall-back/new claims