

3M and Illinois Tool Works Settle Suit over Patent Infringement

3M and Illinois Tool Works Inc. (ITW) have come to a mutual settlement concerning issues in patent infringement litigation brought by 3M in June 2006 in the U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota relating to 3M's patent covering its paint preparation system products.

Under the terms of the agreement, the specifics of which are confidential, ITW has acknowledged the validity and enforceability of 3M's patent rights and has taken a license under 3M patents. In addition, the parties have entered into a supply agreement under which 3M will supply a portion of ITW's DeKups system in the future.

About 3M

A recognized leader in research and development, 3M produces thousands of innovative products for dozens of diverse markets. 3M's core strength is applying its more than 40 distinct technology platforms – often in combination – to a wide array of customer needs. With \$24 billion in sales, 3M employs 79,000 people worldwide and has operations in more than 60 countries. For more information, visit www.3M.com.

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