

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

MASCHIO GASPARD S.p.A.,)
)
Plaintiff/Counterdefendant,)
) C.A.
v.) No. 22-1394-RGA-JLH
)
PRECISION PLANTING LLC,)
)
Defendant/Counterclaimant.)

VIDEOTAPED VIRTUAL ZOOM DEPOSITION
OF ANDREA RUFFIN

Volume I

Taken on Behalf of Defendant/Counterclaimant

August 28, 2024

(The deposition began at
7:55 a.m. Central Time, U.S.)

*** HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL - ATTORNEYS ONLY ***

Precision Exhibit 1025
Precision Planting v. Maschio Gaspardo
IPR2024-00008

I N D E X O F E X A M I N A T I O N

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(The original exhibits were retained by the court reporter, to be attached to the original transcript.)

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

MASCHIO GASPARD S.p.A.,)
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Plaintiff/Counterdefendant,)
) C.A.
v.) No. 22-1394-RGA-JLH
)
PRECISION PLANTING LLC,)
)
Defendant/Counterclaimant.)

VIDEOTAPED VIRTUAL ZOOM DEPOSITION OF
WITNESS, ANDREA RUFFIN, produced, sworn, and examined
on the 28th day of August, 2024, between the hours of
nine o'clock in the forenoon and six o'clock in the
evening of that day, at Topeka, Kansas, before BRENDA
ORSBORN, a Certified Court Reporter, within and for
the States of Missouri and Kansas, a Certified
Shorthand Reporter within and for the State of
Illinois, and a Registered Professional Reporter, in a
certain cause now pending in the State of Michigan, in
the United States District Court for the District of
Delaware, wherein Maschio Gaspardo, S.p.A. is the
Plaintiff/Counterdefendant and Precision Planting LLC
is the Defendant/Counterclaimant.

A P P E A R A N C E S

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The VIDEOGRAPHER: Bob Gore

1 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and
2 between counsel for Plaintiff and counsel for
3 Defendant, that the VIDEOTAPED VIRTUAL ZOOM DEPOSITION
4 of ANDREA RUFFIN may be taken in shorthand by Brenda
5 Orsborn, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, and
6 afterwards transcribed into typewriting; and the
7 signature is not waived.

8 * * * * *

9 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Good morning. We are
10 going on the record at 7:55 a.m. Central, on August
11 the 28th, 2024. Please note that this deposition is
12 being conducted virtually. The quality of the
13 recording depends on the quality of camera and
14 Internet connection of participants. What is seen
15 from the witness and heard on screen is what will be
16 recorded. Audio and video recording will continue to
17 take place unless all parties agree to go off the
18 record.

19 This is Media Unit 1 of the video-recorded
20 deposition of Andrea Ruffin, taken by counsel for
21 Defendant in the matter of Maschio Gaspardo S.p.A. vs.
22 Precision Planting LLC, filed in the United States
23 District Court for the district of Delaware, Case No.
24 22-1394-RGA-JLH.

25 My name is Bob Gore. I'm with Veritext, and

1 I'm the videographer. The court reporter is Brenda
2 Orsborn. She too is from Veritext.

3 Would Counsel please identify themselves for
4 the record.

5 MR. BROWN: This is Scott Brown, appearing
6 on behalf of Precision Planting LLC, and with me today
7 is my partner, Matt Walters.

8 MR. MAZUR: Good morning. My name is Peter
9 Mazur, from Devlin Law Firm, here on behalf of
10 Plaintiff Maschio Gaspardo and the witness, Andrea
11 Ruffin. With me today are Neil Benchell, also of the
12 Devlin Law Firm, and Stefano of Cantaluppi & Partners.

13 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Okay. Thank you very
14 much.

15 Brenda, Would you swear in the witness,
16 please.

17 INTERPRETER
18 of lawful age, was sworn to translate, to the best of
19 her ability, English to Italian and Italian to
20 English.

21 ANDREA RUFFIN,
22 of lawful age, being produced, sworn, and examined on
23 behalf of the Defendant, deposes and says:
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10 Q. What was your next position?

11 A. Then I become a manager, responsible at
12 global levels for R and D for the technical office.

13 Q. And when did you become the manager of
14 R and D?

15 A. Yes. Let me correct what I said before,
16 because some time has passed, and so I didn't remember
17 correctly. I think I became a manager of global R and
18 D in 2015, [REDACTED]

19

20

21 [Marked Ruffin Exhibit No. 3.]

22 Q. I'm going to share with you what we marked
23 as Ruffin Exhibit 3. Can you see Ruffin Exhibit 3 on
24 your screen?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Do you recognize what this document is?

2 A. Yes. It's a company chart.

3 Q. And this document appears to have a
4 modification date in July of 2023. Do you see that?

5 A. If it's the date which appears on the
6 lower -- the end on the left, I cannot read it. It's
7 too small, but it seems to be dates.

8 Q. I've blown it up a little bit. Can you read
9 it now?

10 A. Yes, now I see it.

11 Q. Is this chart accurate today?

12 A. No. No, it isn't.

13 Q. It shows you in each Research and
14 Development. That's still accurate; is that right?

15 A. Yes.

16 [REDACTED]
17 [REDACTED]
18 [REDACTED]
19 [REDACTED]
20 [REDACTED]
21 [REDACTED]
22 [REDACTED]
23 [REDACTED]
24 [REDACTED]
25 [REDACTED]

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Q. (By Mr. Brown) When you referred to 26, were you referring to the collection of parts that are bracketed by the No. 26?

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MR. MAZUR: Objection. It calls for expert testimony.

11

12

A. Yes, 26 is the assembly of components.

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14

Q. (By Mr. Brown) And do you consider all of the components bracketed by the number 26 to be part of the thrust-bearing element that you referred to?

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MR. MAZUR: Objection, seeks a legal conclusion. It calls for expert testimony.

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A. For me, the thrust-bearing element, it's an element which is capable of withstanding the load.

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[REDACTED]

Q. Has Maschio Gaspardo ever marketed a vacuum seed meter that has a thrust-bearing element?

MR. MAZUR: Objection. It calls for expert testimony.

A. I would say no, it doesn't seem to me that, referring to the figure of Patent '121.

Q. (By Mr. Brown) Has Maschio Gaspardo ever sold any vacuum seed meters that are covered by the '121 patent claims?

MR. MAZUR: Objection, seeks a legal conclusion, calls for expert testimony.

A. No, not as far as I know.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Q. Are you aware of any companies that have copied the developments of the '121 patent?

A. I think I already answered this question.

Q. And you said, "No" previously; is that correct?

A. Right.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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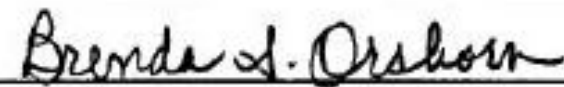
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Brenda Orsborn, a Certified Court Reporter (MO CCR No. 914), (KS CCR No. 1727) and Certified Shorthand Reporter (IL CSR No. 084-003460), and a Registered Professional Reporter, do hereby certify that the witness whose testimony appears in the foregoing deposition was duly sworn by me; that the testimony of said witness was taken by me to the best of my ability and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this deposition was taken, and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.



Brenda Orsborn, RPR, CCR, CSR

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Page 102

Veritext Legal Solutions
1100 Superior Ave
Suite 1820
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Phone: 216-523-1313

September 4, 2024

To: Peter A. Mazur

Case Name: Gaspardo, S.P.A., Maschio v. Precision Planting LLC

Veritext Reference Number: 6864336

Witness: Andrea R. Ruffin , Vol I Deposition Date: 8/28/2024

Dear Sir/Madam:

Enclosed please find a deposition transcript. Please have the witness review the transcript and note any changes or corrections on the included errata sheet, indicating the page, line number, change, and the reason for the change. Have the witness' signature notarized and forward the completed page(s) back to us at the Production address shown above, or email to production-midwest@veritext.com.

If the errata is not returned within thirty days of your receipt of this letter, the reading and signing will be deemed waived.

Sincerely,
Production Department

NO NOTARY REQUIRED IN CA

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DEPOSITION REVIEW
CERTIFICATION OF WITNESS

ASSIGNMENT REFERENCE NO: 6864336

CASE NAME: Gaspardo, S.P.A., Maschio v. Precision Planting LLC

DATE OF DEPOSITION: 8/28/2024

WITNESS' NAME: Andrea R. Ruffin , Vol I

In accordance with the Rules of Civil
Procedure, I have read the entire transcript of
my testimony or it has been read to me.

I have made no changes to the testimony
as transcribed by the court reporter.

Date Andrea R. Ruffin , Vol I

Sworn to and subscribed before me, a
Notary Public in and for the State and County,
the referenced witness did personally appear
and acknowledge that:

They have read the transcript;

They signed the foregoing Sworn
Statement; and

Their execution of this Statement is of
their free act and deed.

I have affixed my name and official seal

this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Notary Public

Commission Expiration Date

DEPOSITION REVIEW
CERTIFICATION OF WITNESS

ASSIGNMENT REFERENCE NO: 6864336

CASE NAME: Gaspardo, S.P.A., Maschio v. Precision Planting LLC

DATE OF DEPOSITION: 8/28/2024

WITNESS' NAME: Andrea R. Ruffin , Vol I

In accordance with the Rules of Civil
Procedure, I have read the entire transcript of
my testimony or it has been read to me.

I have listed my changes on the attached
Errata Sheet, listing page and line numbers as
well as the reason(s) for the change(s).

I request that these changes be entered
as part of the record of my testimony.

I have executed the Errata Sheet, as well
as this Certificate, and request and authorize
that both be appended to the transcript of my
testimony and be incorporated therein.

Date

Andrea R. Ruffin , Vol I

Sworn to and subscribed before me, a
Notary Public in and for the State and County,
the referenced witness did personally appear
and acknowledge that:

They have read the transcript;
They have listed all of their corrections
in the appended Errata Sheet;
They signed the foregoing Sworn
Statement; and
Their execution of this Statement is of
their free act and deed.

I have affixed my name and official seal
this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Notary Public

Commission Expiration Date

VERITEXT LEGAL SOLUTIONS MIDWEST

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This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

DAY OF _____, 20____.

Commission Expiration Date