

## ADMINISTRATIVE PANEL DECISION

Rhodia Brasil S.A. v. Name Redacted

Case No. D2026-0308

### 1. The Parties

The Complainant is Rhodia Brasil S.A., Brazil, represented by Novagraaf Belgium NV/SA, Belgium.

The Respondent is Name Redacted.<sup>1</sup>

### 2. The Domain Name and Registrar

The disputed domain name <rhodiabrasil.com> is registered with Hosting Concepts B.V. d/b/a Registrar.eu. (the "Registrar").

### 3. Procedural History

The Complaint was filed with the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center (the "Center") on January 26, 2026. On January 26, 2026, the Center transmitted by email to the Registrar a request for registrar verification in connection with the disputed domain name. On January 27, 2026, the Registrar transmitted by email to the Center its verification response disclosing registrant and contact information for the disputed domain name which differed from the named Respondent (Name redacted for privacy) and contact information in the Complaint. The Center sent an email communication to the Complainant on January 29, 2026, providing the registrant and contact information disclosed by the Registrar, and inviting the Complainant to submit an amendment to the Complaint. The Complainant filed an amended Complaint on February 3, 2026.

The Center verified that the Complaint together with the amended Complaint satisfied the formal requirements of the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (the "Policy" or "UDRP"), the Rules for Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (the "Rules"), and the WIPO Supplemental Rules for Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (the "Supplemental Rules").

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<sup>1</sup>The Respondent appears to have used the name of a third party when registering the disputed domain name. In light of the potential identity theft, the Panel has redacted the Respondent's name from this decision. However, the Panel has attached as Annex 1 to this decision an instruction to the Registrar regarding transfer of the disputed domain name, which includes the name of the Respondent. The Panel has authorized the Center to transmit Annex 1 to the Registrar as part of the order in this proceeding, and has indicated Annex 1 to this decision shall not be published due to the exceptional circumstances of this case. See *Banco Bradesco S.A. v. FAST-12785241 Attn. Bradescourgente.net / Name Redacted*, WIPO Case No. [D2009-1788](#).

In accordance with the Rules, paragraphs 2 and 4, the Center formally notified the Respondent of the Complaint, and the proceedings commenced on February 5, 2026. In accordance with the Rules, paragraph 5, the due date for Response was February 25, 2026. The Respondent did not submit any response. Accordingly, the Center notified the Respondent's default on February 26, 2026.

The Center appointed Mario Soerensen Garcia as the sole panelist in this matter on March 4, 2026. The Panel finds that it was properly constituted. The Panel has submitted the Statement of Acceptance and Declaration of Impartiality and Independence, as required by the Center to ensure compliance with the Rules, paragraph 7.

#### 4. Factual Background

The Complainant is a chemical and textile company belonging to the Solvay Group. It was founded in 1919.

The Complainant owns trademarks consisting of RHODIA, including but not limited to:

Jurisdiction	Reg No.	Trademark	Reg. Date	Class
Brazil	002875098	RHODIA	June 15, 1982	1
Brazil	002664712	RHODIA	May 23, 1982	3
Brazil	007535163	RHODIA (stylized)	January 5, 1982	1
Brazil	007535180	RHODIA (stylized)	January 5, 1982	2

The Complainant also owns the domain name <rhodiabrasil.com.br>, registered on January 18, 2000.

The Respondent appears to have used the identity of a Complainant's staff member when registering the disputed domain name.

The disputed domain name was registered on December 15, 2025, and resolves to an active page, which is currently resolving to the Complainant's official website, more precisely to the part of the website dedicated to Brazilian consumers: <solvay.com/pt-br/brazil>.

#### 5. Parties' Contentions

##### A. Complainant

The Complainant contends that it has satisfied each of the elements required under the Policy for a transfer of the disputed domain name.

The Complainant argues that the disputed domain name is confusingly similar to the trademark RHODIA.

The Complainant submits that there is no evidence that the Respondent has made demonstrable preparations to use the disputed domain name for legitimate purposes, nor is there any evidence that the Respondent is using the disputed domain name in connection with any noncommercial or fair use. The Complainant argues that the Respondent has no rights or legitimate interests in respect of the disputed domain name.

That being the case, the Complainant finds that the disputed domain name is likely to make Internet users assume that the disputed domain name offers goods/services supplied by the Complainant.

According to the Complainant, it has prior rights over the trademark RHODIA and has not authorized the Respondent's registration and use of the disputed domain name.

The Complainant's intellectual property rights for the RHODIA trademarks and domain name predate the registration of the disputed domain name.

The Complainant argues that the registration and the use of the disputed domain name have been conducted in bad faith.

The Complainant requests the transfer of the disputed domain name.

## **B. Respondent**

The Respondent did not reply to the Complainant's contentions.

## **6. Discussion and Findings**

In accordance with paragraph 4(a) of the Policy, the Complainant must prove that each of the three following elements is satisfied:

- (i) the disputed domain name is identical or confusingly similar to the trademark or service mark in which the Complainant has rights;
- (ii) the Respondent has no rights or legitimate interests in respect of the disputed domain name; and
- (iii) the disputed domain name has been registered and is used in bad faith.

### **A. Identical or Confusingly Similar**

It is well accepted that the first element functions primarily as a standing requirement. The standing (or threshold) test for confusing similarity involves a reasoned but relatively straightforward comparison between the Complainant's trademark and the disputed domain name. WIPO Overview of WIPO Panel Views on Select UDRP Questions ("[WIPO Overview 3.1](#)"), section 1.7.

The Complainant has shown rights in respect of a trademark or service mark for the purposes of the Policy. [WIPO Overview 3.1](#), section 1.2.1.

The mark RHODIA is recognizable within the disputed domain name. Accordingly, the disputed domain name is confusingly similar to the marks for the purposes of the Policy. [WIPO Overview 3.1](#), section 1.7.

The Panel finds the first element of the Policy has been established.

### **B. Rights or Legitimate Interests**

Paragraph 4(c) of the Policy provides a list of circumstances in which the Respondent may demonstrate rights or legitimate interests in a disputed domain name.

Although the overall burden of proof in UDRP proceedings is on the complainant, panels have recognized that proving a respondent lacks rights or legitimate interests in a domain name may result in the difficult task of "proving a negative", requiring information that is often primarily within the knowledge or control of the respondent. As such, where a complainant makes out a prima facie case that the respondent lacks rights or legitimate interests, the burden of production on this element shifts to the respondent to come forward with relevant evidence demonstrating rights or legitimate interests in the domain name (although the burden of proof always remains on the complainant). If the respondent fails to come forward with such relevant evidence, the complainant is deemed to have satisfied the second element. [WIPO Overview 3.1](#), section 2.1.

Having reviewed the available record, the Panel finds the Complainant has established a prima facie case that the Respondent lacks rights or legitimate interests in the disputed domain name. The Respondent has not rebutted the Complainant's prima facie showing and has not come forward with any relevant evidence demonstrating rights or legitimate interests in the disputed domain name, such as those enumerated in the Policy or otherwise.

There is no evidence that the Respondent is making a legitimate noncommercial or fair use of the disputed domain name or that, before any notice of the dispute, the Respondent has made use of, or demonstrable preparations to use the disputed domain name or a name corresponding to the disputed domain name in connection with a bona fide offering of goods or services.

The Panel finds the second element of the Policy has been established.

### **C. Registered and Used in Bad Faith**

The Panel notes that, for the purposes of paragraph 4(a)(iii) of the Policy, paragraph 4(b) of the Policy establishes circumstances, in particular, but without limitation, that, if found by the Panel to be present, shall be evidence of the registration and use of a domain name in bad faith.

In the present case, the Panel finds that the Respondent was aware of the Complainant's trademarks as the disputed domain name reproduces the RHODIA mark and is confusingly similar to the Complainant's domain name. Besides, the Complainant's trademark registrations predate the registration date of the disputed domain name.

The disputed domain name resolves to the Complainant's official website. Having reviewed the available record, the Panel notes the reputation of the Complainant's trademark, the composition of the disputed domain name, and the lack of Response by the Respondent, and finds that in the circumstances of this case the redirection of the disputed domain name to the genuine website of the Complainant supports a finding of bad faith under the Policy.

The fact that the Respondent committed identity theft of a Complainant's staff member when registering the disputed domain name is another clear indication of bad faith.

The Panel finds that the Complainant has established the third element of the Policy.

## **7. Decision**

For the foregoing reasons, in accordance with paragraphs 4(i) of the Policy and 15 of the Rules, the Panel orders that the disputed domain name <rhodiabrasil.com> be transferred to the Complainant.

*/Mario Soerensen Garcia/*

**Mario Soerensen Garcia**

Sole Panelist

Date: March 18, 2026