

## Shell in Legal Battle Over Name of Web Site, Journal Reports 2005-06-02 05:57 (New York)

By 

June 2 (Bloomberg) -- Royal Dutch/Shell Group, Europe's second-largest oil company, is waging a legal battle to gain control over the Web site name <http://www.royaldutchshellplc.com> owned by an 88-year-old British army veteran who uses it to post mostly negative information about the company, the Wall Street Journal reported.

The company wants to gain control over the name before RoyalDutch/Shell merges its two holding companies into a single entity, Royal Dutch Shell Plc, the Journal said.

Shell discovered soon after the merger announcement that the name was already registered and last month filed a complaint with the World Intellectual Property Organization, requesting the owner, Alfred Donovan, be stripped of his rights.

Donovan and his son John have waged a longstanding anti-Shell campaign that started in the 1990s in a dispute over rights to Shell gasoline-station promotions, the Journal said. Shell attorneys argue Alfred Donovan originally acquired the name to "disparage" the company, the newspaper said.