From: Gregory J. Smith
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/17/01 1:17am
Subject: Re: settlement

I'm quite displeased that my government has decided to let Microsoft off the hook when they have been declared a monopoly. The terms of this settlement does little to prevent Microsoft from continuing their monopolistic practices and does nothing to punish them from their past regressions.

Microsoft has proved it's self a fierce competitor and will stop at nothing to own what ever market it wishes to own. It will try and try again destroying it's competitors or at the last resort buying them out.

At work I use a MS operating system, MS Office, we have MS servers and I use a MS web browser. Forget about using an "alternative" web browser, my IT department forbids it because it would be incompatible. MS marketing at work!

Now they want to control my personal information with their .NET initiative. They say it's because that is what people what and they are just trying to give us what we want. The real reason is because MS wants to own a potential market and keep the rewards for themselves. They have shown that they have no interest in security or doing anything of interest to the user. They don't make changes until they are forced to and then they are often do a poor job or steal from other companies. I certainly do not trust Microsoft.

From a Wired article: "Microsoft chairman Bill Gates on Thursday defended the settlement as tough but one that "we're really pleased to have." If Microsoft is glad to have it then it clearly does not go far enough.

I hope that the judge will reject this settlement as inadequate. I also hope for a Department of Justice that is interested in protecting the interests of American citizens rather than the interests of large corporations.