

From: Sten Westgard
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/7/01 8:30am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To the US DOJ:

I was very unhappy to hear that Microsoft isn't going to be sufficiently punished for its monopolist and anticompetitive behavior. The remedies being discussed only reward Microsoft for acting illegally.

There must be a way of insuring that Microsoft can't illegally leverage its desktop monopoly into dominance of other markets. Essentially, this settlement is letting Microsoft say, "oh, we'll be better in the future" without any way of insuring that will happen.

Microsoft should not be allowed to bundle new applications into the operating system, or if it does, it should make its relevant source code open to the public. Otherwise, it's the old railroad gauge problem. Microsoft forces everyone to run on their tracks, and the markets lose creative innovation.

Microsoft's pursuit of the Java-killer is just another example of this behavior. Java is used by tens of thousands of programmers, but because Microsoft can't control that language, it's trying to kill it by inventing far less useful languages like C# or J++.

Please, I beg you to actually punish Microsoft for the billions of dollars it stole from its competitors. The USA is about freedom, the freedom to make the best application and take it to market. Microsoft is all about preventing anyone else from selling an application.

Sincerely,
Sten Westgard
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