From: DArmour@weatrust.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/17/01 9:36am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern

As a computer profesional and avid user of computers I oppose the proposed Microsoft settlement. Microsoft's efforts have damaged the creativity and vitality of the American software industry. A broad industry with multiple players will produce higher quality software that will more directly benefit the consumer and American businesses. There is no evidence to suggest that Microsoft's practices of bundling software have offered consumers any advantage. The quality of their software has cost consumers and business large sums of money. The constant upgrade cycles have promoted their bottom end, but have not drastically improved or changed the computing experience. Since 1995 there have been at least 6 Microsoft OS upgrades. Four of them have been of equal quality and problems which have been sited as reasons for upgrading namely stability and usability. The user interface of OS have not changed substantially since 1984 when Apple introduced the Macintosh.

If the government does not take an extremely active role in the the punishment of Microsoft they will cause the software industry to irreparably damaged. In the long run this will hurt America and American interests. Without competition there is no true progress. In this case, there is already insufficient competition, to promote true advantages and benefit to the consumer. Please re-think this settlement and attempt a more comprehensive and restricive solution.

Sincerely

David Armour

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