From: Steve Sawyer
To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
Date: 1/8/02 12:19pm
Subject: Microsoft anti-trust case

Greetings,

I have been involved in the IT industry since 1981. I watched Microsoft, Apple and others work their way up the corporate ladder with innovative ideas and hard work. They deserve much of the fruits of their labor.

However, in Microsoft's case, they have been doing much more harm than good to the consumer over the past several years. As a graduate of the University of Oregon School of Business Administration, I have watched with fascination the methods with which Microsoft has eliminated competition and coerced vendors into doing business Microsoft's way. All of this while their own products continue to slide, in terms of quality and technical advancement. The result is a two-edged sword. They spend time and resources wiping out competitive ideas leaving little reason or incentive to improve their own. Then the Government and the courts comes along and 'endorses' this approach by mandating toothless laws with little or no enforcement. Microsoft is trying to do this with Linux as well as others.

Microsoft is a great company. Bill Gates and crew should be applauded for what they have done for technology. However, Microsoft has become a textbook example of why we have rules governing monopolistic practices in this country. When Billy Graham gets caught speeding he receives a ticket for speeding and he pays the fine. Microsoft got caught and it is time to pay the fine.

Do America and Microsoft a favor and put a stop to the dark side of Microsoft.

Thank you...

Steve

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