

From: Tanner lewis
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/12/02 1:55pm

January 11, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

I am writing you today expressing my sincere belief that that no further action on behalf of the federal government needs to be taken against Microsoft. This issue has held the leading innovator, as well as the entire IT industry, in a state of stagnancy for three years now. It is time that the government let them get back to work. For this reason, the settlement reached in November should be implemented without further delay.

It is quite clear that this settlement is thorough and reasonable. The government wanted to inhibit anti-competitive behavior and that is exactly what this agreement does. Microsoft has agreed to allow its competitors access in code and interfaces that internal are internal to Window operating system products. Additionally, Microsoft has conceded broad new rights to computers makers to ship non-Microsoft operating systems, as well as the rights allowing them to configure Windows so as to promote software applications that compete with Microsoft products. There are many other provisions of this settlement, all of which will be verified by a Technical Committee for compliance. Under these conditions, it is fair to say that Microsoft's competitors have a significant advantage, and more importantly, this settlement satisfies the original goal of the government's lawsuit.

This settlement should be implemented immediately so as to allow Microsoft to get back to producing innovative products and services. This issue has been drawn on far too long, to the detriment of the IT industry and the economy. It demands a resolution. Please continue your hard work in this direction.

Sincerely,

Tanner Lewis

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