From: Sean Corliss
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 10:25am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I have attached my comments regarding the Microsoft Settlement, below, in accordance with the Tunney Act.

Regards,
Sean Corliss
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CC: scorliss@Progress.com@inetgw

1/23/2002

To Whom It May Concern:

I almost decided not to submit my comments regarding this antitrust suit, since I've practically given up hope that Microsoft might actually become a positive corporate member of the United States, and I personally feel powerless to change their behavior. I've been working in the computer industry for about 8 years. Before I was computer literate, I actually started out very pro-Microsoft. I've been watching this case very closely.

I have come to realize that Microsoft is currently a huge liability to the future of our country. I've concluded that they have and will continue to erode the spirit, which founded America as a land of opportunity. They have abused the system, and have made it extremely difficult for individuals to live in a Microsoft free environment. Every day it takes more effort to keep Microsoft out of my home life. Be assured that they will continue to dominate other markets even as they continue to delay these proceedings. .Net platform, X-Box, Passport, IE, and other Microsoft initiatives will convince illiterate consumers that Microsoft has their best interest at heart. After all, they are selfless enough to donate $1Billion dollars to the education market!

I strongly urge you to reject the proposed settlement, the language of which comes from Microsoft's own lawyers. This settlement will only justify Microsoft's actions when it attempts to force the open source movement to its death, since the settlement allows Microsoft to determine the meaning of 'viable business'. This settlement only strengthens Microsoft's 'delay and deny' tactics, since the oversight committee has only the illusion of actual power to keep Microsoft from continuing it's illegal practices. Who would have thought that one word 'bundling', would have been the undoing of the last antitrust settlement?

In conclusion, did you ever hear the story about the scorpion that asked the frog for a ride across the water? When the frog asked why the scorpion had stung it, midway across the river, the scorpion replied "It's in my nature".

It's also in Microsoft's nature to abuse the spirit of our legal system for it's own purposes. They have shown many times that they cannot be trusted, and will continue to abuse it's monopoly. Microsoft knows that we will not hurt them. Many believe that hurting Microsoft will hurt our economy, security, and stability of our country. This only reinforces the urgency to foster alternative solutions, so that our country does not experience a 'single point of failure', as well as enhancing consumer choice.

I Strongly urge you to objectively Reject the proposed antitrust settlement, with all of your heart and mind.

Sincerely,

Sean Corliss
Sr. Support Analyst/Web Developer