From: Betsy Byrd
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

The current proposed settlement (PS) is flawed. Because of many different legal loopholes in the PS, Microsoft will be able to find ways

to easily exploit their customers and OEMs to their advantage.

Microsoft has already extended, or tried to extend, their monopoly since

the start of the trial, such as:

* Microsoft .NET and MS's plans to force everybody to sign for a MS Passport (which has already been proven to be a very insecure system)

* The failed attempt to turn an educational lawsuit into a way to inject

  their software into yet another market
* Imposing highly-restrictive EULAs and license agreements in XP to try to milk as much money as possible from the end user and businesses, which has already forced other governments (such as the UK and China)

  to consider other options besides MS software
* Using PR stunts to hide the fact that security was never a major concern of any of their products, and never will be (even though recent developments in Windows XP and Internet Explorer have proven this)
* Starting petty lawsuits to snuff out competition, in the hopes of running them out of money (such as the recent Lindows lawsuit)
* Rigging web polls and writing fake letters (from people already long dead and buried) to influence business and DoJ decisions

The government's intentions in the PS are in good faith, but the language puts too much faith in MS's interpretation of it. Dan Kegel has a great analysis of the flaws found in the PS here:

http://www.kegel.com/remedy/remedy2.html

In short, I feel that it's the DoJ's duty to revamped the PS and/or return to the drawing board, as its current revision is not enough to stop Microsoft's anti-competitive practices.

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