

**From:** Ben Conner  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 2:25pm  
**Subject:** settlement comments

Gentlemen,

Having been in the computer field for over 30 years, I have watched with interest as Microsoft has gained their current market position. Never have I seen a more classic case of abuse of monopoly position.

I spend a good deal of my time helping clients clean up messes left by Microsoft applications that break or ignore standards set by the industry. After several versions of released code, one can only draw the conclusion that it is their intent to cause this. It can't be explained away by ignorance or stupidity on their part.

Given that this arrogance is part of their corporate culture, assigning a few 'code cops' is going to be as effective as having a handful of auditors to look over returns at the IRS.

They have already proven they can't be trusted--what makes you think keeping them intact will improve their policies?

If you believe this is speculation, take the acid test--try and order a PC without Microsoft products on it from any major manufacturer. It isn't possible. And under your new guidelines, nothing will change.

If you haven't noticed yet, do you know how Microsoft says "Screw You!"?

"Trust Me!"

--Ben

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