

From: Bill Thompson
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 5:28pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my displeasure of the proposed Microsoft settlement as allowed by the Tunney Act. I have been a computer professional for over 10 years and I have witnessed first hand the rise of the Microsoft monopoly and the damage it has caused to the computer industry. I feel that the settlement as it stands now does not go far enough to redress this damage. The definitions of "API" and "middleware" as detailed in the settlement, are so narrow that they become meaningless in todays computer market. Also, by allowing Microsoft to set the terms for licensing it's API to developers, the settlement allows them to lock-out many Open Source and Freeware developers who would be working on projects in a non-profit manner.

I hope that the Department of Justice will re-examine this settlement and come up with a better solution that truly opens the computer industry up for healthy competition.

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