

From: Phil Budne
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 6:36pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

As a software professional of 20 years I STRONGLY object to the proposed settlement in the Microsoft antitrust case.

Microsoft's predatory practices have been ruinous for software industry creativity and reliability. Microsoft has effectively squelched competition in most markets it has entered.

I do not believe the settlement contains penalties or remedies commensurate with the level of anti-competitive activity carried out by Microsoft.

Particular points;

Microsoft's current "middleware" efforts (Microsoft.NET and C#) do not seem to be covered at all by the agreement.

The definition of "Windows Operating System Product" seems to omit important Microsoft products.

Microsoft continues to include licensing terms on its software components which are clearly meant to suppress the emergence of Operating Systems or Middleware that might compete.