

From: James Glidewell
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

As a computing professional, with 20 years experience as a programmer and system administrator, I believe that the proposed settlement is completely inadequate in that it fails to adequately address a number of factors which the findings of fact listed.

A single example will have to suffice: there is no requirement for Microsoft to publish the file format specification for data files generated by their Office products.

Microsoft has long used the proprietary nature of these file formats to force large enterprises to choose MS Word or Excel, rather than other competitors, since it was deemed essential that any word processor or spreadsheet be able to read Word or Excel files, which other software vendors were forced to painstaking reverse-engineer, a process which could take months to years.

This is but one of the potent tools Microsoft has used over the years to leverage a dominant position into a truly monopolistic one.

I do not believe that the proposed settlement meets the letter of the law - that a proposed settlement will **ensure** that the monopoly will be **unable** to again exert its monopoly. By such a standard, the proposed settlement is completely inadequate.

Thank you.

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