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To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 10:57am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

As a Network Manager for 8 years and a Technical Support person for 4 years prior to that, I can tell you that I have seen Microsoft have a neagative impact on the market in the following ways:

- they would buy competitors (like FoxPro databases) only to eventually kill that product line and force customers from that former competitor to "upgrade" to Microsoft technology.
- The whole thing with Internet Explorer ... they basically bought the rights to Mosaic's browser as I understand and basically killed Netscape by offering IE for FREE
- Java - a wonderful effort to create write-once-run-many apps. What did Microsoft do? They tried to sabotage it so it would only run on Windows.
- Apple - I don't have to tell you what happened here with the whole "we'll sell Office for Mac if you kill QuickTime"
- Even in their settlement offer! they tried to increase market share by giving away Microsoft products in an effort to cut off competitors like Apple
- It is extemely dangerous for ANY industry, a nation and world for that matter, to be SO dependent on ONE company. It is a national security issue given how easy it is for hackers and cyber terrorists since they can target their attacks for only 1 operating system and one messaging system, Outlook. We've put all our eggs in 1 basket and we are at risk.
- They are dangerous because they are not the real "Innovators" in the personal computer realm. They are replicators and predators.

There is only ONE solution. Microsoft must be broken up into two or more companies. One will be ONLY operating system(s) NOT including integrated web browser technology from IE. They can rip it out. The other company(ies) will be Apps. Microsoft Office. Their database products should ALSO be separate from their Office Apps because they also have a dangerous monopoly there with Office and MS SQL Server they try to exploit.

Much has been stated by Microsoft to the effect that altering the company will have an adverse economic impact on the nation. Let me tell you what already has had a negative impact:

- Sys Admins dealing with a never ending flood of virus and security problems for Windows. I forgot the last time I had a serious concern with our Macs.
- the ever increasing licensing issues ... where we have to pay tithes to gates and co. to upgrade to the latest version of their software that's supposed to be more stable and secure.

Kindly,

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