

**From:** Ray Morro  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/24/02 10:02pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to register my objection to the proposed Microsoft settlement. I do not believe the current proposed settlement serves the interests of promoting competition or remedying the impact on the American consumer, nor does it fully redress the actions committed by Microsoft in the past or inhibit their ability to commit similar actions in the future.

The vast majority of the provisions within the settlement only formalize the status quo. Of the remaining provisions, none will effectively prohibit Microsoft from abusing its current monopoly position in the operating system market. This is especially important in view of the seriousness of Microsoft's past transgressions.

Furthermore, the proposed settlement does nothing to correct Microsoft's previous actions. There are no provisions that correct or redress their previous abuses. They only prohibit the future repetition of those abuses. This, in my opinion, goes against the very foundation of law. If a person or organization is able to commit illegal acts, benefit from those acts and then receive as a "punishment" instructions that they cannot commit those acts again, they have still benefited from their illegal acts. That is not justice, not for the victims of their abuses and not for the American people in general.

Finally, I believe the settlement should include requirements for Microsoft to provide open access to interfaces between its products, and to provide an unbundled version of Windows (no Internet Explorer, no Windows Media Player, etc.). These actions are needed to afford competitive products, including open source alternatives, with an environment in which they can compete on a level playing field with a competitor which controls the incumbent desktop operating system technology. Without true, timely and open access to interoperability information, the barriers of entry for alternative commercial and open source products will be too high to overcome the leverage held through its desktop operating system monopoly. To truly avoid a recurrence of past practices, an oversight committee of some sort is truly needed.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
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