

From: Larry Israel
To: Microsoft ATR
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U.S. Dept. of Justice:

I hope the DOJ breaks Microsoft into smithereens. They certainly deserve it. In fashioning the remedy, I very much hope the DOJ will look toward the open source software movement for guidance with this case. As society will increasingly depend on computers and the Internet as the primary information infrastructure, operating systems are very important public resources. Non-proprietary, standards-compliant systems are very much in the public interest, allowing interoperability amongst the various hardware and software components of this infrastructure. Rather than the dominant profit-making company working to bring as much business as possible to their own proprietary implementations, everyone is better served by free, open source software, right down to the operating system. For many years, open source software has given us some of the most important innovations, developed by professionals who are abundantly donating their hard work in the public interest. At minimum, Microsoft must have the operating system software split from the rest of the company. Similarly, Microsoft ownership and broadcast of content should be split from all of their software products. Without that, in the future they threaten to control the entire broadcast infrastructure, from media content creation, to broadcast, to the delivery system in our homes. Certainly Prince William makes no secret of his plans for domination of everything he's able to get his hands on. Make them pay for their unethical, heavy-handed and illegal business practices. Stop Microsoft now, while you can.

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