

From: Tom Peck
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 3:50pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am opposed to the settlement reached between the Dept. of Justice and Microsoft for the anti-trust case against Microsoft.

This settlement allows Microsoft to continue its anti-competitive practices. As shown in the trial, and upheld by several appeals, Microsoft has abused its monopoly to damage third party software developers. This abuse has affected not only those developers, but consumers as well, by limiting choice in the software market and allowing Microsoft to charge artificially inflated prices for their software.

Specifically, the wording of the settlement allows Microsoft to continue its anti-competitive behavior against free, or open source, software. The careful wording of the settlement only requires Microsoft to disclose APIs to other businesses. A developer of a free or shareware application is excluded from this information.

Microsoft should be required to divulge ALL information about their APIs to anyone who asks for it. This documentation could easily be put on Microsoft's web site at very little cost to Microsoft. An independent review panel would insure that information is updated in a timely fashion and that the information is correct.

Thank you.