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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: MS v DOJ

I am against the proposed settlement with Microsoft. It does not do enough to punish the software company or ensure changes in behavior in the future.

Netscape was replaced as the dominant web browser by Internet Explorer(IE) because IE was free. Microsoft has already been found liable for misusing it's operating system monopoly to make this happen. IE is now used by most Internet users because it is free and supplied with Windows and Macintosh by default. No other browser has a chance to gain market share because of this.

Now that IE has become the leader, it has stopped using Netscape's "plug-in" technology for enabling helper applications to open alternate Internet content. Active X is the new proprietary solution and give Microsoft an advantage in writing helper applications for IE. Even if they are required to release the API(Application Programmer's Interface) for Active X, it still gives them the advantage. They have the code first and they have the "real code." I would not be surprised, nor should anyone, if they release to other vendors an inferior subset of the API. This will give Windows Media Player, Word, Outlook, and Messenger a lead on other current market leaders like Real Player, Adobe Acrobat, Eudora, and AOL Instant Messenger.

Microsoft has also dropped support for Java in it's latest operating system, XP. This is hardly in the consumers best interest, as a large quantity of useful programs are written in this platform independent language. This can only be Microsoft's attempt at punishing Sun Microsystems and no one can stop them from doing this. They should work with Sun to make a good version of Java for Windows.

The solution proposed by the Justice Department seems like a giveaway. It is notable that it comes right after the executive branch has become Republican. I would like to see a more objective resolution to the illegal behavior by Microsoft. Thank you...

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