



January 18, 2002

Ms. Renata Hesse
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street, NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse:

This letter urges you to accept the proposed settlement between Microsoft and the Department of Justice.

The proposed settlement addresses the major charges against Microsoft including requiring Microsoft to provide technical details to help rivals make products compatible with its Windows operating system; providing an oversight panel full access to its books and plans for five years, bans exclusive contracts with computer makers that put rival software vendors at a disadvantage; requires disclosures to be made to rivals about the operation of its server software; and establishes a separate oversight committee of the states to ensure compliance.

The negotiators of this settlement have done a good job. This settlement should be accepted and all parties should move forward in their quest to provide more advanced technical products to consumers. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Thompson", is written over a horizontal line.

David J. Thompson