

**From:** marek@mcmail.cis.mcmaster.ca@inetgw  
**To:** dept. of justice  
**Date:** 1/24/02 6:31 am  
**Subject:** Microsoft settelment

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Open file formats  
Date: Thu, 17 Jan 2002 12:21:52 -0500  
From: Marek Kiela <kielam@mcmail.mcmaster.ca>  
To: "dept. of justice" <microsoft.atr@usdoj.gov>

I would like to comment on the Microsoft case.  
There should be a push towards opening Microsoft file formats ( ea..  
Word, Excel )  
if government doesn't want to find itself in a position where Bill Gates  
will dictate when and what software to use and how much to put in his  
coffers.  
It only make sense that user should be able to use any word processor to  
open a document, or any spreadsheet program to open a spreadsheet and so  
on.  
You do not have to break company apart to force competition.  
Just insist that in order to get government software contracts, it has  
to be open file format.

Regards  
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