From: James Puckett
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 10:25pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir or Madame,

Please do NOT move forward with the proposed Microsoft antitrust settlement. In its current form, the settlement proposed by the Department of Justice will do little to break Microsoft's monopoly. By only restricting Microsoft's behavior toward other commercial entities, you restrict Microsoft's behavior toward a group of companies it has already conquered and will have little trouble continuing to dominate. Open Source and Free software are the only real competition that Microsoft has left in this world; and because that work is non profit, developers of said software will receive no protection in your proposed settlement. Given free reign to attack Open-Source and Free software, Microsoft will flex all the muscle it can to destroy products like Apache, Samba, Linux, and anything else that Steve Ballmer and Bill Gates feel threatens their company's monopoly.

You MUST move to an alternate remedy. First, Microsoft should be split, just as judge Jackson recommended, so that the Office and Windows monopolies can no longer be used to strongarm users, vendors, and OEMs toward both products. Second, Microsoft most open the workings of their APIs and networking protocols so that they cannot constantly work to shut out others in such simple areas as file sharing and network domains.

Please do no sell out the future of computing, the internet, and who knows what else to Microsoft. Microsoft's guilt and arrogance are obvious in this case, and if a real punishment is not issued, the Microsoft monopoly will only get worse, and will be abused even more.

America needs you. Stop Microsoft now. Thank you.

Sincerely,

James Puckett
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