

Sent: vendredi 27 octobre 2000 13:24  
To: MARKT SOFTPAT  
Subject: In support of responsible software patents

Hi,

I am an independent software developer. I am not unbiased in this matter, as I am currently in the process of trying to patent (what I consider to be) an original idea related to software.

I believe that software patents should exist. This said, they must be implemented responsibly, with the involvement in the patenting process of individuals and / or organisations which have proper awareness of industry issues. I believe that many of the difficulties which have resulted from software patents in the USA have been the result of ill-informed patent examinations during the patent application process.

Without patent protection, I have no motivation to produce my idea, which is novel and will most likely benefit many organisations affected by the idea. I have no motivation to even reveal the existence of the idea -- one of the key aims of the patent system is to bring ideas into the public realm, allowing ideas to flow freely while at the same time encouraging real innovation.

This said, I do not wish the patent system to be abused by incumbent corporate interests. Sufficient protections must exist to ensure that ideas patented are indeed novel and non-obvious, and are used to protect development of novel ideas rather than existing monopolies.

Best regards,