

From: Nathaniel Manista [e-mail redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2010 4:40 PM
To: Bilski_Guidance
Cc: [e-mail redacted]
Subject: Please consider a complete moratorium on software patents

Innovation in software is driven by humanity's fascination with computing capability and by consumer demand for more capable and more intelligent computing devices and infrastructure. Software patents encumber the progress of the useful computing arts and sciences by establishing monopolies on inevitable innovations and slowing or preventing directed research.

Software patents are neither responsible for the great software in the world today (innovation has taken place despite them, not because of them) nor necessary for the great software of the future. Software isn't like drugs, consumer goods, or industrial devices - it is special because consumer demand and human curiosity suffice to progress it at full speed with no other incentives in place. Because they provide no aggregate benefit to society as a whole (or to anyone other than their holders) please consider a complete moratorium on software patents.

I've tried to be brief (thank you for your time and attention) but feel encouraged to follow-up with me.

-Nathaniel

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