

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
 626
 Comes v. Microsoft

File : c:\bradsl\mail\box.11d
Messages :

628
 From: Aaron Steveb
 To: Aaron Steveb
 Subject: Re: Win 3.1 compatible Winword 1.1a
 Cc: Bradsl Martyea
 Date: Fri Mar 22 13:49:57 1991

Your point is a good one - If people find Microsoft are confused than other people must be as well. Marty is working with me and other people to come up with an articulation of our policies and I should probably put it out in a memo.

Unfortunately the definition of what is systems software and what is applications is changing for good technical reasons so any definition between systems and applications will not be a permanent one - printer drivers and screen drivers moved to systems. Command languages will move to systems. Document search will move to systems. Since MS apps is willing to give stuff to MS systems in many of these cases what was applications code will become systems code. I dont know of many reverse examples except that maybe we will unbundle write.

Borland confuses these issues by acting like the linker and debugger and debug versions of system software are something they deserve for us to give to them for free which we dont agree with.

The pluses and minuses of doing applications inside microsoft are complex. The bottom line is that we do worse on MS environments than on MAC so clearly being early is the dominant factor in success and that is our windows success - we tried to get other people involved. I think it is time to make our agreement with Lotus public and really document our push on Windows.

567L

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Fri Mar 22 14:24:26 1991

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