

From: TeraDyne Ezeri [e-mail redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 25, 2010 4:47 PM
To: Bilski_Guidance
Cc: [e-mail redacted]
Subject: I Am Against Software Patents

To whom it may concern,

My birth name is Shawn Stilwell, though I go by the name Terra Ezeri. I am a proud American, an aspiring writer, artist, and more importantly, software developer. As someone who is deep in the technology community, I've managed to see a lot of bad things happen thanks to software patents, and many controversies thanks to greed.

I've witnessed small developers put out of business, and many friends losing their jobs, thanks to patents that were extremely broad, or covering something so basic that it becomes difficult to create smaller applications without the patented code. On top of that, patent "trolls", companies that hold patents without using them, make things difficult for developers who may not be able to create good software thanks to the inability to licence the needed code.

Even worse, these companies will gladly sue developers without a second thought, just to make money. These firms do not hire developers, nor do they produce any product. They survive, if not thrive, by abusing the patent and judicial systems, and inhibit good developers from producing quality computer applications.

Software patents do not encourage advancement in technology or software. Instead, they inhibit advancement by causing fear, and sometimes even force developers to backpedal and regress the level of quality in their products, just to avoid patent infringement and the monetary losses they could suffer.

I ask, not as a future developer, but as an American who cares about his country and its ability to keep up with the world in the field of technology, that you please revoke the ability to patent software and code. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Terra Ezeri