From: Peter Hajas [e-mail redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 25, 2010 1:23 PM
To: Bilski_Guidance
Subject: Software Patents

Hello,

My name is Peter Hajas. I am studying Computer Science at RPI and I'm very passionate about the field of software.

I feel as though software patents (as they currently stand) are working against the ideas and concepts of patents in general. Patents are designed such that innovators and inventors can have a chance to profit off of their ideas. However, software patents are now working against this goal, being used merely as a way for companies to pursue legal action against other corporations over things that are far too broad to be legitimately patentable. The fact that a patent for 1-click purchasing even exists is an insult to the system at large. Nobody should own an idea that's so fundamental to e-commerce.

Furthermore, I feel as though software patents are difficult for other innovators, as it's nearly impossible to assess whether or not a patent has been violated. Keywords are not reliable or consistent, and it's unreasonable to have to look through hundreds of patents to make sure nobody's patented an idea. This is especially ridiculous if you came up with the idea yourself, as the patent holder can pursue legal action against you even when no malice was intended.

I urge the patent office to truly look back at the intention of patents, and realize (as many other software developers have) that software patents work against, not for, those ideas. Software patents make it less likely that I'll develop cool software, due to fear of legal action.

With respect,

Peter Hajas