

**From:** Sean McCleary [e-mail redacted]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 27, 2010 4:43 PM  
**To:** Bilski\_Guidance  
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**Subject:** Please stop the issuing of software patents

Software patents are no longer being used as just protections to existing software, they are also being used as anti-competitive weapons. As a developer I am constantly worried if I am inadvertently infringing on an existing patent. I do not have a team of lawyers at my disposal to verify that I am not infringing on someone else's patent. Software patents only prohibit ingenuity.

The United States needs all the competition and ingenuity we can muster to compete in a global market and software patents are enforced mainly by and against United States companies and software developers. There are developers in other countries who do not observe software patents held by US companies. Software patents are killing ingenuity and competition here in the US.

The US will not be a technological leader in the world if we continue to issue software patents.

Please stop or significantly restrict the issuing of software patents

- Sean McCleary