

From: Abel Mohler [e-mail redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 25, 2010 7:24 PM
To: Bilski_Guidance
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Subject: Software patents are patently ridiculous

I would like to encourage you to take a strong stand against software patents, issuing them in only very limited situations, if at all. Software is always derivative work to an extreme degree, which seems to me should disqualify most applications. Besides, software is already protected as copyrighted work, as far as using actual source code of others is concerned. These copyrights, and the various licenses that go along with them, seem to me the only protection software developers need against the infringement of their rights.

It has been proven many times over that openness, not protectionism, leads to innovation. When we become protectionists of what are almost always abstract ideas, we stifle innovation and create a culture of companies filing patents just so they can bring lawsuits later.

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