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From: Bill\_Alford@bstz.com [mailto:Bill\_Alford@bstz.com]

Sent: Wednesday, December 03, 2003 10:22 PM

To: eReference

Subject: Official Gazette Notice 12/1/03 - Notice to Cease Supplying  
Copies of Cited US Patent References with Office Actions....

I am an Apple Macintosh computer user with a Apple Macintosh Operating System (MAC OS). Currently the USPTO does not offer software to allow me to access private PAIR using this computer and operating system. I recently inquired if the software was being made available to do so. I was referred to the link to the PAIR system requirements.

<http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/efs/downloads/systemreq.htm>

This link indicates that only personal computers with a Pentium processor and Microsoft OS will allow access to private PAIR.

If the USPTO is to cease supplying copies of cited patent references, requiring us to access them through private PAIR, software for the MAC OS should be made available to access private PAIR from Apple Macintosh computers.

If the USPTO wants to broaden the use of electronic transactions in patent prosecution, it needs to increase the supported computers and make its software easier to use.

Bill Alford