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Sent: Friday, September 24, 2010 1:57 PM
To: Bilski_Guidance
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Subject: No Software Patents!

Hello,

I'm a software programmer from Greenville, SC, and from experience I must tell you, that there is no good reason why software code should be patentable. Here are a few reasons it shouldn't.

1. Software is, like math, a fact based endeavor. It's algorithms cut and pasted together in different ways to get different results. You can not patent facts or obvious things.
2. All software is made up of the written word that is then translated into machine language. This written word, is like any other written word. You can copyright your specific/exact wording, but the ideas and intentions or outcomes of the written word you are not able to copyright or patent. For example, you can not patent the 'romantic novel' or 'story of redemption', but you can copyright the exact wording of a Nicholas Sparks novel.
3. Software changes and improves so fast, that any economic benefit that could be gained by offering people or institutions exclusive use of a software patent, in order to entice them to create it, is greatly outweighed by the punishing hurdles that are put up to the industry at large, where almost all advances involve the use of and modification of several ideas/paradigms/algorithms, which are all obvious to do, but no need has existed that had yet warranted such software.

Please consider these points, and many others!, when deciding NOT to continue issuing software patents, and at some point in the near future, nullify all existing patents. This is the right and moral thing to do.

Thank you for your time,

Travis Cooper