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From: Robert Weissler [mailto:weissler@aves.org]

Sent: Friday, January 04, 2013 10:38 PM

To: SoftwareRoundtable2013

Subject: Suggestion re: additional topics related to software patents

The USPTO should invest in a study of software patents to determine if they support or impede innovation and whether they add any value over copyright law, since software is a form of written expression and does not require capital investment like hardware inventions in order to produce valuable intellectual property. A case study comparing European laws to US laws in this realm would be helpful, especially as it relates to barriers to small business and the individual software developer who compete with lawyer-laden corporate entities that merely trade in software patents rather than innovating.

Regards,

Robert Weissler

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Sent from my iPad