

From: Alex Reuman [e-mail redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 25, 2010 4:55 AM
To: Bilski_Guidance
Subject: Patents on software

Hello,

As a recent graduate of the University of Missouri with a major in Computer Science, I have some comments to make about patents on software. In my senior capstone class we were required to write a paper on whether or not we thought patents on software were legitimate. I argued not. Software is such a dynamic and changing area that being able to patent ideas stifles and inhibits creativity as well as progress in the field of software development. This is why we need openness of software. Open software and development provides future generations of developers with tools to build upon, supplied by their predecessors, to create the next generation of technologies, without limiting them with legality and patents. Keep software open and ideas accessible. We need this in order to prevent roadblocks from forming in the way of innovation and ideas.

Alex