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GBK · EBA · GCR

27. April 2009

Case G 3/08

Enlarged Board of Appeal
European Patent Office
c/o W. Roepstorff / Registry
80298 Munich
Germany

Concerns: Case G 3/08: Software Patents

Dear sirs,

As a professional software developer, I ask you to ensure that it remains impossible to patent software. Software can not be considered as technical inventions, it is more like cooking recipes, or art work.

Someone finding a great software idea can use it to make a great software application, and sell this software application if he wants, but he should not prevent other people from using the same idea. This would completely hinder and slow down software development instead of encouraging it. Software patents would be really bad, they would have a very negative impact on the software industry.

While I understand that making software for commerce has its reasons, I am a convinced supporter of free software. People give time to build computers programs and share them freely with users and other programmers. It allows to create great software together, instead of against each other. Software patents would terribly harm this very positive system.

Best regards,



Hugues De Keyzer