

From: Vincent Marquez [e-mail redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2010 10:06 PM
To: Bilski_Guidance
Subject: Please stop software patents.

For the last ten years I've been a professional programmer, and I spend most of my day writing code. It's very similar (in the abstract, at least) to writing a document in english. I use words that the computer understands to construct sentences that solve a business problem. While intellectual property is an important part of my job, the fact that someone can patent not a 'sentence', so to speak, but a ***method*** of constructing a certain type of sentence, is absurd.

Yet that's exactly what software patents are. Is there any difference between being able to get a patent for " sentence designed to argue a point ending with a rhetorical question" and "A computerized list is provided with auxiliary pointers for traversing the list in different sequences." ?

Both are constructed using the basic building blocks of our field, and put together the end result is something done thousands of times a day by people across the world. Please take this into consideration when deciding on if software patents should exist.

Sincerely,

Vincent Marquez