

tabbies  
**PLAINTIFF'S  
EXHIBIT**  
4023  
Comes v. Microsoft

**From:** Bill Gates  
**Sent:** Monday, December 07, 1998 8:28 PM  
**To:** Jon DeVaan; Steven Sinofsky; Bill Neukom (LCA)  
**Cc:** John Mason (LCA)  
**Subject:** FW: free desktop suite from star

**Importance:** Low

Attorney client privileged

An interesting development...

At some point we will have to consider the patents they violate.

I am unclear of what their business strategy is with the free version. It is a good product developed by a surprisingly lean team of people.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Eric Rudder  
**Sent:** Monday, December 07, 1998 1:55 PM  
**To:** Bill Gates  
**Subject:** free desktop suite from star  
**Importance:** Low

Star offers desktop suite for free  
<http://www.news.com/News/Item/0%2C4%2C29599%2C00.html?dd.ne.tx.fs2.1207>

it's scary that corel's code is potentially in play too ... if i were oracle or sun, i'd think abt either supporting star, or picking up a snapshot of corel really cheaply, and offering at an insanely low price.

-eric

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