

## **GO** Corporation

139 Townsena Street San Francisco, CA 94107 415.543.3200

May 16, 1988

William H. Gates, III Microsoft Corporation 16011 NE 36th Way Box 97017 Redmond, WA 98073-9717

Dear Bill:

Both Jerry and I want to give you belated thanks for the copies of PC Excel. It's a great product, and we're sure you're gratified by the warm reception the market seems to be giving it. I also want to thank you for the kind words you had in your letter on Framework's promise and the opportunity Microsoft and I might have had to work together.

I too was excited by the opportunity to work with Microsoft and you. As it was, this time the timing didn't work out due to my contractual obligations to Ashton-Tate. And then Jerry came along with a proposition that I couldn't say no to, and which didn't violate my non-compete with Ashton-Tate.

Which leads me to the topic of GO Corporation. We're preparing a proof-of-concept demonstration for early June. We're at a point in our planning and development where it's now clear to us that cooperation with Microsoft is both appropriate and of potential mutual interest.

Jerry and I would appreciate the opportunity to share our product plans and show you the demo in our lab on a confidential basis. Therefore, if you're coming through the bay area in the next 4-6 weeks, you're invited to visit. If this is inconvenient, we would also be happy to come up to Redmond, but unfortunately the demo is not easily transportable.

Both Jerry and I are very interested in your thoughts and comments on GO's plans.

Sincerely yours,

Robert M. Carr V.P. Software