

Microsoft asks court to hold off on Word ban

August 19 2009



(AP) -- Microsoft Corp. is asking the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit to allow it to keep selling Word software as it fights an unfavorable patent ruling.

The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas found Microsoft infringed on a patent held by a Canadian company, i4i LLP. Last week, the judge ordered Microsoft to pay \$290 million and to stop selling copies of its word processing program that use the patented technology within 60 days.

The [patent](#) relates to the way Word 2003 and 2007 let users customize document encoding.

Microsoft says it and the public will both suffer if Word goes off the

market while the company devises a workaround.

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Citation: Microsoft asks court to hold off on Word ban (2009, August 19) retrieved 24 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2009-08-microsoft-court-word.html>

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