

French police, tax authorities search Microsoft offices

June 28 2012

French authorities conducted a search of the offices of Microsoft's French division near Paris on Thursday, a police source said without specifying the motives for the raid.

The operation at the offices in Issy-les-Moulineaux was carried out jointly by police and representatives of French <u>tax</u> services, the source said.

A <u>Microsoft</u> France spokesman confirmed the operation to AFP but said it was "in the framework of a standard tax audit".

"Of course we answer their questions and give them the information they need," said Marc Mosse, head of Microsoft France's legal department.

Asked why the tax officers would be accompanied by the police, he added: "When you enter private premises, detectives need to be there."

Microsoft France is headed by Eric Boustouller.

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