

Re: Help with XP Activation please!!

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Dear Bruce,

- > *Did that court decision specifically stated that its decision*
- > *applied to *all* OEM software, or was it a more narrow case involving*
- > *one specific software product/class bundled with one specific piece or*
- > *class of hardware? Were specific conditions stipulated?*

If I remember right it was a case which dealt with a Microsoft OS. But since this decision this legal position is generally applied here in Germany to any kind of software.

- > *Otherwise, if*
- > *this trend continues, I would expect international computer and software*
- > *manufacturers to start abandoning the German market.*

This is not very likely, at least MS is still doing business here in Germany.

- > *Who'd want to try*
- > *to do business in a country that disregards the intellectual property*
- > *and contract laws of other nations?*

Why are intellectual property rights violated? The court decision says, that the customer is free to use the property right he received which the purchase of the software to utilize the software on any kind of hardware. Well that's the point of view of the german high court and it goes without saying that other countries might have (and in fact do have) other ways of interpreting intellectual property issues. But I think that each country has to respect the positions of his partner countries and has to accept (and in fact does) if there is a different way to interpret general rules – at least this is my point of view.

Kind regards

Peter