

Re: Why does Microsoft make things so difficult?

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Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.messenger/2006-02/msg00161.html>

- *From:* Ari <nomail@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 24 Feb 2006 10:58:35 -0500
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On Sat, 4 Sep 2004 16:39:02 -0700, "Cody"
<Cody@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Why does there have to be two versions of Messenger (Windows and MSN)? It just confuses everyone. Why don't they just merge the two together and have all the features each contain in one program. I have just installed SP2 and lost the features in Windows Messenger. I have lost the Hotmail feature, and also the ability to send text messages, which I used everyday. I would install MSN Messenger, but is it integrated with Outlook Express? NO! Does Windows Messenger support Hotmail and mobile devices? NO! Thanks a lot Microsoft. What am I supposed to do? Install MSN Messenger and just sign in/out between the two for the features I want? I think not! Why can't it just be like the past when ONLY MSN Messenger existed and everyone was happy?

This is a fair question, and I don't think you'll get an objective answer here.

I might get banned for saying this, but here goes.

Microsoft has the 'control the world' type of attitude; similar to AOL and Compuserve in the early days of the internet (circa 1991). Rather than providing a stand alone and secure utility program, they insist on imbedding the application deeply into their operating system, making you subscribe to services (they call them 'features') that you neither want or need. For instance, you need to install and use passport to use Messenger.

Carried even deeper, Microsoft insists on requiring the installation of IE, and IE's settings determine security for other Microsoft internet applications. Are you beginning to see the problem is their attitude and general philosophy? One has only to look at the activeX mess they created to understand how this deep imbedding and requirement of one to use other Microsoft services to get the one service that you desire. Of course, fixing technical problems is a nightmare because you have 10 services all interacting with each other

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when there should only be the base service (which should be stand alone to begin with).

One needs only to check into any of the microsoft support usenet groups and read the countless examples of sure 'good intentions gone bad' technical nightmares.

Such a continued attitude by Microsoft will bring them down eventually. We already don't use IE (Firefox browser has no activeX issues because it doesn't use/allow activeX). We can block all ads at the source (they aren't even downloaded, so pages load faster)! Spyware does not enter a computer running firefox (in general) and browser hijacking and redirection is not an issue.

We see evidence of Bill's losing market share already. Linux OS gets better everyday (linux is an open source OS that does not have a complicated structure and dependency on other linux modules that windows has—best of all it's independently reviewed and audited by security experts so the back doors into the OS aren't a serious security issue).

We haven't used Outlook and Outlook Express in years—yet we read they are still riddled with the same security issues that they suffered from 10 years ago. Eudora and Free Agent are free email and usenet readers.

Open Office—can't say enough about this. We can buy Microsoft software cheaply thanks to a relative that works for M\$, but even so, we use Open Office in place of Microsoft Office. OO is a free version of an Office—Like suite that is also open sourced and does almost everything that the big bucks Microsoft Office does (including opening word, excell etc files and editing them). It's a completely free collaborative effort by hundreds of developers, united to end Microsoft's strangle hold on business and home users of Microsoft Office. Best of all, users don't get hosed down for technical support....which is almost always an issue that Microsoft should have addressed when they wrote the software to begin with::> Info at openoffice.org.

A registry that you can't edit with a text editor and that a single wrong keystroke makes your OS useless and you have to reinstall? WHY? I should be able to know what's in there without needing to be a rocket scientist.

At the root of all of this is Microsoft's holier than thou attitude.

We remain a Microsoft OS user, for now and hope that Bill wises up soon. But, tend to agree with MIT's recent conclusion that computers need a complete redesign right down to the basic OS and concept in order to make them useful tools once mere. They concluded that the internet has many problems as well and needs a similar redesign. Both

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the computer and the internet are built upon fundamentally flawed bases, with layer after layer of additions, all built on the flawed and ancient base structure.

We use XP, which we consider the latest beta version by Bill. We used and paid for the previous beta versions as well, called DOS3, DOS5, DOS6, WIN95, WIN98 etc, but don't think we should have to constantly pay for upgrades to the latest version (currently XP). Shouldn't we only have to pay for an OS once????

I wish you all luck.

Ari

PS:my internet access is shakey, please reply by email directly to me if needed.

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Delete all the upper case letters to get reply email address.

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