

## Deep Down Microsoft Fears Linux

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I was just reading [a summary of Steve Ballmers message to Microsoft partners](#). In this message Steve Balmer takes most of his time to knock [IBM](#) and how much their failing. That's not what really caught my attention, what did was his comments about [Linux](#):

*Turning to Linux, Ballmer focused on patents. Responding to a question on IP, Ballmer - again inaccurately - cited an Open Source Risk Management (OSRM) survey from last summer that highlighted the existence of 287 patents in the Linux kernel. "Rumor is Linux violates 286 patents," Ballmer said before moving on quickly.*

Is that all [Microsoft](#) can come up with? I noticed that unlike his case against IBM which Balmer goes on to say:

*"Does IBM have the best software? They don't even have the second best software..."*

So I guess this means that [Linux](#) has the best software? If citing some supposed patent violations is the best [Microsoft](#) can come up with then I really do wonder how much [Microsoft](#) actually fears [Linux](#). With Longhorn not hitting PCs until at least the last quarter of 2006, maybe into 2007, I wonder if users will have a chance to migrate to [Linux](#) by then. I guess we'll just have to wait and see. I am really really curious to see the future of the open source community.

As long as I'm commenting on [Microsoft](#) I thought I'd also mention that [Microsoft](#) has [screwed up another potentially good service](#). If this an indicator of how well the [Microsoft Anti-Spyware](#) software is going to work then I'm more than a little disappointed. The article talks about how Claria (formerly Gator) is no longer recommended as spyware that should be removed from a computer. Instead [Microsoft](#) states that they alert the user to the software but do not recommend removing it. Let me give all of you none internet savy people a little advice: **CLARIA IS ADWARE**. It's that simple. Everyone in the Internet Community knows this, except apparently, [Microsoft](#).

### Related Links

<http://www.microsoft.com>

<http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/spyware/software/default.msp>

<http://www.linux.org>