
News Release



UNITED
STATES
GOVERNMENT
PRINTING
OFFICE

Office Of Congressional, Legislative And Public Affairs

<http://www.access.gpo.gov>

For Release: IMMEDIATE
November 10, 1999

Contact: Andrew M. Sherman
202-512-1991
asherman@gpo.gov
No. 99-24

GPO PROVIDES PUBLIC ACCESS TO MICROSOFT DECISION

At the request of the Federal District Court for the District of Columbia, the Government Printing Office (GPO) prepared print copies and online access to the "Findings of Fact" in the Microsoft case issued on Friday, November 5, 1999, by Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson.

GPO was asked to make advance preparations for the rapid dissemination of the document. GPO established a specific URL for the "Findings" to be released on **GPO Access**, GPO's popular Internet service (at **www.access.gpo.gov**). The Microsoft document URL is **<http://usvms.gpo.gov>**. At the Court's request, the document was to be made available in WordPerfect and Portable Document Format (PDF) formats. GPO also added availability in HTML format. To handle the anticipated demand, GPO arranged to have the document loaded on 10 servers configured behind a BigIP load balancer, served by five T1 lines.

The Court also asked that GPO make available printed copies of the "Findings" through its main bookstore on North Capitol Street in Washington, DC, starting at 6:30 p.m. on the date of release. GPO produced copies of the cover in advance, established a \$25 price for the product, and made preparations to dedicate high-speed duplicating systems for rapid document production. In addition, GPO set up a system for taking advance orders for the print publication.

Judge Jackson announced the decision at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, November 5. A printed copy and electronic disk version of the 207-page document, entitled *Findings of Fact: In State of New York, ex rel. Eliot Spitzer, et al., v. Microsoft Corporation, cases 98-1232 and 98-1233*, were transferred to GPO by the Court. Print production began immediately, and a sufficient number of copies was produced by the time the bookstore

re-opened at 6:30 p.m. At the same time, the electronic version was readied for the 6:30 p.m. release online.

In the first hour of release, online traffic was heavy. **GPO Access** experienced 152,000 successful connections in the first hour of release, with new connections averaging between 75 and 100 every 4 seconds by 7:30 p.m. Between 6:30 p.m. Friday, November 5, and noon on Monday, November 8, **GPO Access** experienced 395,000 successful connections, delivering 188 gigabytes of data during this period

A total of 147 copies of the print document were sold between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on November 5. Most of the network evening news broadcasts about the decision on Friday were filmed in front of GPO's bookstore.

Print copies of the "Findings" are also being made available for public access through Federal depository libraries located throughout the Nation.

GPO Access is one of the few Government Web sites established by law and one of the longest running, beginning operation in 1994. It is virtually the only Government Web site that provides easy, one-stop, no-fee access to information from all three branches of the Federal Government. Over 80 applications make information available from more than 1,300 databases, representing more than 101,000 individual titles. **GPO Access** also provides links to an additional 60,000 titles on other Federal websites. Monthly document retrievals today average more than 21 million—about 924 terabytes of information.

United States Government Printing Office
Washington, DC 20401

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for private use, \$300
Stop LP

Postage and Fees Paid
GPO
Permit No. G-26

FIRST-CLASS MAIL