

Competitive Intelligence: Early Warning

What patent applications does Microsoft have pending in the U.S. Patent Office?

Step 1

Enter File WPINDEX to access Derwent's World Patents Index database.

```
=> file wpindex
```

```
COPYRIGHT (C) 1999 DERWENT INFORMATION LTD
```

Step 2

Conduct an effective Assignee search.

```
=> e microsoft/pa
```

```
E1 1      MICROSLATE CORP/PA
E2 3      MICROSLATE INC/PA
E3 1074  -> MICROSOFT/PA
E4 1      MICROSOFT CO/PA
E5 1072   MICROSOFT CORP/PA
E6 2      MICROSOFT CORP INC/PA
E7 29     MICROSOFTWARE/PA
```

```
=> s e3-e5
```

```
1074 MICROSOFT/PA
    1 "MICROSOFT CO"/PA
1072 "MICROSOFT CORP"/PA
    2 "MICROSOFT CORP INC"/PA

L1 1074 (MICROSOFT/PA OR "MICROSOFT CO"/PA OR
        "MICROSOFT CORP"/PA OR "MICROSOFT CORP
        INC"/PA)
```

Step 3

Search for all of Microsoft's priority U.S. applications.

```
=> s L1 and us/prc
```

```
1563779 US/PRC
```

```
L2 1069 L1 AND US/PRC
```

Step 4

Remove all of Microsoft's published U.S. patents. This will leave only Microsoft's U.S. patent publications that are still pending in the U.S. Patent Office but have been published elsewhere in the world.

```
=> s L2 not us/pc
```

```
2205893 US/PC
```

```
L3 159 L2 NOT US/PC
```

Step 5

Display your search results using the Display (D) command.

```
=> d L3 brief 1
```

```
L3 ANSWER 1 OF 159 WPINDEX COPYRIGHT 1999 DERWENT
INFORMATION LTD
AN 1999-469382 [39] WPINDEX
DNN N1999-350469
TI Operator input device for a computer.
DC T04
PA (MICR-N) MICROSOFT CORP
AB WO 9939304 A UPAB: 19990928
NOVELTY - Light from an electromagnetic radiation
source (104), such as a light emitting diode (118) and
lens (120), passes through an aperture (106) in
housing (102) and impinges upon the work surface
(116). Reflectede light is directed by a lens (108) to
an image detector (110) which generates a signal
indicative of an image or pattern on the work surface.
A controller (112) computes position information and
also controls a current driver (114) to control the
light intensity.
.....
Dwg.2/12
```