### FORM 4

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

heck this box if no longer subject to
ection 16. Form 4 or Form 5
bligations may continue. See

### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  GATES WILLIAM H III						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol MICROSOFT CORP [ MSFT ]									5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)					
GATES WILLIAM H III																Director		10%	Owner	
(Last) (First) (Middle) ONE MICROSOFT WAY						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/31/2006									X	Officer (give title below)  Chairman of the Board				
(Street) REDMO					4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									Line)	ndividual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable e)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person				
(City)	(3)			n Doriv	ativo	Soo	ıritio	- A o	nuirod	Die	nacad a		r Bo	oofic	برااما	Own				
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Da					ction	2A. Exe if ar	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) of Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4				5. Amoun Securities Beneficia		unt of ties cially Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirec (I) (Instr. 4)	of Indirect	
									Code	v	Amount		(A) or (D)	Pric	е	Transa	ction(s) 3 and 4)		(111311. 4)	
Common	07/31/	07/31/2006						32,000		D	\$24	4.08	970,819,236		D					
Common Stock 07/3					07/31/2006				S		24,000		D	\$24.07		970,795,236		D		
Common Stock 07/31					31/2006				S		242,400	)	D	\$24.06		970,552,836		D		
Common Stock 07/31/2					2006				S		21,500		D	\$24.05		970,531,336		D		
Common Stock 07/31/2					2006				S		17,400		D	\$24.04		970,513,936		D		
Common Stock 07/31/					2006				S		14,600		D	\$24	4.03	970,4	199,336 <sup>(1)</sup>	D		
	Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)																			
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deen Executio if any (Month/E	n Date,		ransaction Code (Instr.		of		Exerci on Da Day/Y		An Sec Un De Sec	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4)		Der Sec (Ins	Price of ivative curity str. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transactions (Instr. 4)	Ownershi Form: Direct (D) or Indirec (I) (Instr. 4	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					Code	v		Date		Expiration	Ni of		umber							

## **Explanation of Responses:**

1. In addition, there are 425,066 shares owned by reporting person's spouse. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities, and this report shall not be deemed an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of the securities for purpose of Section 16 or for any other purposes.

\* Duly authorized under Special Power of Attorney appointing Michael Larson attorney-in-fact, dated February 3, 2006, by and on behalf of William H. Gates III, filed as Exhibit 99.1 to Cascade Investment, L.L.C.'s Amendment No. 2 to Schedule 13G with respect to Arch Capital Group Ltd. on March 7, 2006, SEC File No. 005-45257, and incorporated by reference herein.

William H. Gates III By: /s/

Michael Larson\*, Attorney-In- 08/02/2006

Fact

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.