

OMB APPROVAL	
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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* <u>BALLMER STEVEN A</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>ONE MICROSOFT WAY</u> (Street) <u>REDMOND WA 98052-6399</u> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>MICROSOFT CORP [MSFT]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>Chief Executive Officer</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>08/23/2004</u>	
	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	08/23/2004		G	V	84	D	\$0	410,967,990	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. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)					

Explanation of Responses:

Remarks:

Keith R. Dolliver, Attorney-in-Fact for Steven A. Ballmer 08/23/2004

** 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.

December 11, 2003

Securities and Exchange Commission

450 Fifth Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20549-0001

Re: Microsoft Corporation - Power of Attorney

To whom it may concern:

This will confirm that I have granted each of the individuals listed below the authority to, on my behalf, execute and file the Initial Statement of Beneficial Ownership of Securities (Form 3), the Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership of Securities (Form 4) and the Annual Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership (Form 5), as my Attorney In Fact.

Such power of attorney shall remain in full force and effect until either (i) I am no longer subject to the reporting requirements under Section 16 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended or (ii) I have provided you with written notice withdrawing this authority.

The individuals who are authorized to act as my Attorney-In-Fact under this Power of Attorney are as follows:

John A. Seethoff

Keith R. Dolliver

Shauna L. Vernal

Kevin J. Fay

David Menz

Bradford L. Smith

Christyne Mayberry

This Power of Attorney is effective immediately upon filing with the Securities Exchange Commission and, for purposes of my future Form 4 and Form 5 filings, replaces and revokes all other Powers of Attorney previously filed by me.

Sincerely,

/s/ Steven A. Ballmer

