

**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

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0287
Estimated average burden hours per response:	0.5

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>GATES WILLIAM H III</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>ONE MICROSOFT WAY</u>  (Street) <u>REDMOND WA 98052</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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chairman of the Board</b></p>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>08/06/2004</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	08/06/2004		S		233	D	\$27.31	1,099,349,103	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		14,105	D	\$27.3	1,099,334,998	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		75,683	D	\$27.29	1,099,259,315	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		13,712	D	\$27.28	1,099,245,603	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		46,267	D	\$27.27	1,099,199,336	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		44,100	D	\$27.26	1,099,155,236	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		2,000	D	\$27.25	1,099,153,236	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		188,389	D	\$27.25	1,098,964,847	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		138,994	D	\$27.23	1,098,825,853	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		42,300	D	\$27.22	1,098,783,553	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		84,217	D	\$27.2	1,098,699,336	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		50,000	D	\$27.18	1,098,649,336	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		25,000	D	\$27.16	1,098,624,336	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		30,356	D	\$27.15	1,098,593,980	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		25,000	D	\$27.13	1,098,568,980	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		10,130	D	\$27.11	1,098,558,850	D	
Common Stock	08/06/2004		S		59,514	D	\$27.1	1,098,499,336 <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. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		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)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					

**Explanation of Responses:**

1. In addition, there are 428,520 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.

**Remarks:**

Michael Larson, on behalf of 08/10/2004  
William H. Gates III  
Authorized under power of

[attorney dated 3/14/2001 by  
William H. Gates III, filed on  
3/19/2001 with Cascade  
Investment's Schedule 13D,  
SEC File No. 005-52919.](#)

\*\* 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.**