FORM 3

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number 3235-0104 Estimated average burden

| Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the investment Company Act of 1940 | | | | | | | | | | hours per res | ponse: | 0.5 |
|--|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|------|
| 1. Name and Address o LIDDELL CHR | 2. Date of Event Req (Month/Day/Year) 05/09/2005 | iring Statement | | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>MICROSOFT CORP</u> [MSFT] | | | | | | | | |
| | Last) (First) (Middle) C/O MICROSOFT CORPORATION ONE MICROSOFT WAY | | | | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director X Officer (give title below) | | 10% Owner Other (specify below) | | 5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) 7 | | | |
| (Street) REDMOND | WA | 98052-6399 | | | Chief Financial O | | ficer | | X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | | | | | 2. Amount o (Instr. 4) | | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) | | | |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) Expiration Date (Month/Day/Yee | | | | on Date | 3. Title and (Instr. 4) | I Amount of Securities Underlying Deri | vative Security | 4. Conversion Exercise Print of Derivative Security | ice F | 5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 6. Nature of Indirect Benefi Ownership (Instr. 5) | cial |
| | | | Date Exercis | Expiration Date | Title | | Amount or Number of Shares | Security | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

Remarks:

No securities are beneficially owned.

Keith R. Dolliver, Attorney-in-Fact for Christopher P. Liddell

** Signature of Reporting Person

05/10/2005 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 5 (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 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.

May 9, 2005

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 Owner

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 Ben O. Orndorff 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 relating

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher P. Liddell Christopher P. Liddell