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**Subject:** Software Patents Opinion

Is it not the goal of patents to encourage innovation and investment in new technology & industry?

My opinions on software patents, developed as a practitioner of software development for over a decade, can be summed up by the following points:

- The USPTO allows patents on GROSSLY obvious methods.
- The USPTO grants patents on GROSSLY general methods.
- The USPTO appears to have zero understanding of software development, the industry or it's history.
- Moneyed interests use the incompetence of the USPTO as a weapon against innovation.

In short software patents in their current state "*SEVERELY IMPAIR AND SLOW INNOVATION AND INVESTMENT*", the opposite of their intended goal.

For the sake of our very future of our industry and our country please stop issuing software patents as you presently do and dramatically reform the present system.

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