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[IBM Pledges Not To Use Patents Against Linux](#)

Are you sitting down? If so, get ready to leap up for joy. And if you are standing, get ready to pass out. IBM has pledged not to use its patents against Linux, and more than that, it is calling on other companies to do the same. They made the announcement at LinuxWorld: "IBM has no intention of asserting its patent portfolio against theLinux kernel, unless of course we are forced to defend ourselves," saidNick Donofrio, senior vice president for technology and manufacturing,drawing applause in a speech at the LinuxWorld Conference and Expo."The tech giant's announcement could relieve some who fear the legalthreat of the computing industry's largest patent arsenal. But itdoesn't address the more tangible danger that Microsoft, an avowed Linuxenemy, could attack."Microsoft declined to comment for this story." That's because they are trying to figure out what to do.