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IN THE COMPETITION

APPEAL TRIBUNAL

Salisbury Square House 8 Salisbury Square London EC4Y 8AP

Tuesday 9th September 2025 – Wednesday 10th September 2025

Before:

Justin Turner KC
Tony Woodgate
Andrew Lykiardopoulos
(Sitting as a Tribunal in England and Wales)

BETWEEN:

Claimants

Case No: 1570/5/7/22 (T)

JJH Enterprises Limited (trading as ValueLicensing)

V

Defendants

Microsoft Corporation and Others

APPEARANCES

MATTHEW LAVY K.C., HENRY EDWARDS & MARK WILDEN (Instructed by Ghaffari Fussell LLP) on behalf of JJH Enterprises Limited.

GEOFFREY HOBBS KC, JAANI RIORDAN, NIKOLAUS GRUBECK (Instructed by CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP) on behalf of Microsoft Corporation and Others.

- Tuesday, 9 September 2025
- 2 (10.30 am)

- 3 Housekeeping
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Some people are joining us live stream on our
- 5 website. So I must give the following warning:
- an official recording is being made and an authorised
- 7 transcript will be produced, but it is prohibited for
- 8 anyone else to make an unauthorised recording, whether
- 9 audio or visual of the proceedings and breach of that
- 10 provision is punishable as contempt of court.
- 11 Good morning.
- 12 MR LAVY: Good morning, sir. Good morning, Tribunal. As
- 13 you know, I appear with Mr Edwards and Mr Wilden. And
- we have for Microsoft Mr Hobbs, Mr Grubeck and
- 15 Mr Riordan.
- 16 This is the trial, obviously, for two preliminary
- 17 issues. Can I just ask, hopefully not too diffidently,
- whether you have three skeletons?
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: We do.
- 20 MR LAVY: And bundles A to H and T.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: I think we have A to H, yes.
- 22 MR LAVY: Yes. I think it is (inaudible) only. I don't
- think I propose to go to it, for what it's worth.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: It's always helpful to have the letters
- 25 a little bit larger.

- 1 MR LAVY: Yes, sorry about that.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Not to worry.
- 3 MR LAVY: And authorities, there should be --
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, we have those. Thank you very much.
- 5 MR LAVY: And supplemental authorities as well.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, thank you.
- 7 MR LAVY: There are hopefully only two points of
- 8 housekeeping and, subject to the Tribunal's view,
- 9 I would rather just park them, frankly, and get on.
- 10 The first one is how many sample transactions.
- 11 That's going to be a lot easier to deal with just when
- 12 I explain in context what I am relying on and Mr Hobbs
- 13 can just --
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Right, we start those relying on three. He
- 15 has identified them and --
- 16 MR LAVY: Exactly. So the other point of housekeeping is
- 17 the admissibility challenge to Golev. And, again,
- I just propose saying something about that briefly when
- 19 the time comes, rather than diverting ourselves now.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: Very good.
- 21 MR LAVY: On that basis, the general order -- I agree with
- 22 Mr Hobbs -- very radically is that I will speak today,
- going through both preliminary issues. He will respond
- 24 tomorrow and, provided I leave myself enough time,
- 25 I will reply briefly.

- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: I'm grateful. There's just a couple of
- preliminary matters from our perspective.
- 3 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Correct me if I am wrong, but we haven't
- 5 identified any explanation as to what the programs we're
- 6 talking about are; what they do; what their function is.
- 7 Now, obviously they're well-known --
- 8 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: -- and we have some familiarity with them,
- 10 but I'm not sure it's really appropriate to take
- judicial notice of what they do. Am I right about that?
- 12 There's no explanation?
- 13 MR LAVY: There's high level explanation in the evidence,
- 14 very high level. And of course there are -- then there
- is Microsoft's evidence as to what they consist of.
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: So where, for example, is it explained that
- 17 Microsoft Word is a word processing program?
- 18 MR LAVY: Yes, I think the answer is that's a fair point.
- 19 I'm sure we can find something in the bundles which
- 20 makes --
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: I'm not sure. I think we'd welcome a joint
- 22 statement as to what these programs do, what their
- 23 function is. I appreciate there are some more
- 24 controversial areas as to the extent to which the
- 25 artistic works are relevant. That is canvassed in the

- 1 evidence, but just hopefully in a non-contentious,
- 2 easily agreed, he says with his fingers crossed, single
- 3 page or so on what these --
- 4 MR LAVY: I would certainly be very disappointed if we
- 5 couldn't agree that.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: So if that could be done overnight that would
- 7 be very helpful.
- 8 MR LAVY: Of course, sir. Meanwhile, and pending that,
- 9 could I just make my submissions today on the assumption
- that we basically know what Office is and Windows is?
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes. Then the other matter
- 12 I just wanted to raise is we're obviously dealing with
- 13 at least two preliminary issues. They arise because
- 14 Microsoft say there's effectively -- and I am
- 15 paraphrasing -- but effectively there's an infringement
- of copyright taking place. There are going to be no
- 17 residual copyright issues being held over for the next
- 18 trial, the substantive trial, are there? If there are
- any I'd like to know what they are.
- 20 MR LAVY: I wouldn't quite characterise it that way, because
- obviously it is right that implicitly, and to an extent
- 22 explicitly, Microsoft are saying that some of the
- 23 transactions infringed its copyright. But, of course,
- in the context of these proceedings that's not quite the
- 25 question because --

- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: I appreciate that, but that's not really my
- 2 point. Are any copyright related issues being held over
- 3 for the next trial?
- 4 MR LAVY: Yes, because these two preliminary issues -- which
- 5 were of course selected because if they go a certain way
- 6 they're dispositive of the proceedings -- are only two
- 7 of a number of pleading points around the law of
- 8 exhaustion. And there's the CALs issue, which is
- 9 a contractual point that arises as to whether you can or
- 10 can't do things with CALs. And then there are
- 11 various -- I think it's paragraphs -- it's 23C,
- 12 primarily, of the defence, there are a whole bunch of
- things of which we're dealing with, too.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry? Right.
- 15 MR LAVY: The distinction --
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: We don't want to end up spending two days
- debating the niceties of exhaustion and copyright law,
- then to have to come back and everyone thinks they're
- going to have another bash at all this.
- 20 MR LAVY: No. No, sir. They're different issues that arise
- 21 because these two are different in kind from all the
- 22 others because these two are points of principle which,
- if they're decided a certain way, end proceedings. The
- 24 others -- which are different arguments, actually,
- 25 although in a sense they all relate to exhaustion, but

- they're different arguments -- don't affect the entire
- 2 counterfactual. So they may affect quantum, but they
- 3 won't affect the need to carry on with proceedings to
- 4 have a liability trial and so on.
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: Right. I think we need to understand that
- 6 a little better. I understand there may be other
- 7 transactions. If we end up having to look at
- 8 transaction by transaction, which we may or may not need
- 9 to do, then I can see that other transactions may fall
- 10 into different camps and there could be issues there.
- 11 I understand the CAL issues. It's raised in the
- 12 skeleton for the moment.
- 13 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: But if there are -- I think we need further
- 15 assistance on what is not being decided today and what
- 16 is going to be decided at the next trial insofar as it
- 17 relates to copyright and exhaustion.
- 18 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Rather than do it on your feet could we hear
- 20 submissions on that after lunch, when you have had
- a chance to consider it? I understand the point. The
- 22 Tribunal is concerned we don't end up having to
- 23 rearguing all this.
- 24 MR LAVY: No, and that is certainly not the intention.
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: Points raised in the skeletons and then

- 1 reargued. If that's necessary, we need to understand
- 2 why.
- 3 MR LAVY: I can say unequivocally now that the two key
- issues -- that's from my perspective -- are on the
- 5 agenda for today, which are the splitting issue, I can
- 6 call it that for shorthand --
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, I understand.
- 8 MR LAVY: -- and the non-program works issues will not have
- 9 to be re-argued again. This is it.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. Mr Hobbs?
- 11 MR HOBBS: We are seeing this not so much through the lens
- of copyright as such. We're seeing it as the scope and
- 13 effect of the exhaustion rule under that directive --
- 14 under that directive and the two relative to each other.
- 15 I can see that there may be a residual issue left on
- 16 the CALs. I can see that. Beyond that I can't see that
- any of the issues on the exhaustion points, as I've just
- outlined them to you, are going to come up again later.
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Right, that's very helpful. But I just want
- 20 to make sure we know exactly what's potentially being
- 21 stood over at 2 o'clock today.
- 22 MR LAVY: Of course, sir.
- 23 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: And just before you go on. Just taking
- on from giving us a joint statement on the programs,
- 25 there's been a recent correspondence about the question

- of client service software over work station software.
- 2 And it would be useful also -- you may be addressing us
- 3 on that, but what your position is on that, both sides,
- 4 and also why it matters to the issues today and how it
- 5 features into the argument. It's been a recent
- 6 discussion that has come up in the correspondence and
- 7 we need to have addressed.
- 8 Submissions by MR LAVY
- 9 MR LAVY: I will definitely be dealing with that today.
- 10 So, cracking on, then, with preliminary issue 1.
- I will start by sketching out the overall contours of my
- submissions on the PI and then I will address the key
- 13 points in more detail.
- 14 The starting point, obviously, is Article 4(2) of
- 15 the Software Directive and that is the distribution
- 16 right in a copy of a computer program is exhausted on
- 17 the first sale of that copy. That's what the provision
- says. And, to state the obvious, but it's an important
- 19 point, once the distribution right is exhausted in that
- 20 copy the rightholder can't prevent any further
- 21 distribution of that copy, whether by resale or through
- 22 any other means because its rights are exhausted. And
- 23 the buyer -- I mean, to use the language of UsedSoft and
- in fact more generally -- is the owner of that copy.
- Now, what UsedSoft tells us is that exhaustion on

first sale is not limited, when it comes to software, to distribution on physical media, but can arise in respect of intangible copies, too. So if someone acquires a perpetual licence to use software and downloads it from the rightholder's website, which of course is the usual way of acquiring software in the modern world, that transaction is treated as a first sale from the perspective of Article 4(2) and the distribution rights exhausted in that copy. And that obviously begs the important question of what's meant by that copy; the copy in which the distribution right is exhausted.

And in my submission -- which I will obviously expand upon -- the answer is that it's not a literal copy of the software. That's not what's meant. Rather, it is a notional concept that reflects the economic and practical reality of the transaction. A copy in this context -- and this is my language, not the authorities' language -- is it's like a token. It's an economic unit corresponding to a single but non-specific copy of the software, together with a user right, a right to use that copy.

And I will obviously have to address that by reference to parts of UsedSoft and so on. But, first, I want to explain what I mean by considering what actually is entailed when one resells an intangible copy

of software following the UsedSoft doctrine.

So, just taking the thing in stages, an original licensee who resells their copy of software doesn't obviously hand over anything physical. They don't go to the buyer and wrench out their hard disk from their computer and hand that over. That's not what's going on. Instead, what UsedSoft requires them to do is render their own physical copy of the software unusable, so in practical terms deleting it from their hard disk. And once that's done the person they have resold it to is entitled to download their own copy and install a fresh copy of the software from the rightholder's website.

Of course, in that scenario no software is actually being transferred from the reseller to the second acquirer in any technical or any literal sense.

What's actually going on is that the reseller is deleting their copy and the buyer, through the act of downloading and installing, has made a fresh copy by copying via the download.

But, looked at from an economic and a real world perspective, a copy has transferred from seller to buyer. And that's because before the resale the reseller owns a copy of the software, it has a literal copy installed on its computer and it has the company

user right in respect of that copy in perpetuity, it's a
perpetual licence, and after the resale it's the buyer
who has both of those things.

So, from a rightholder's perspective, there's still only one copy of the software in circulation, which is precisely what the original purchaser paid for, but a different person has that copy.

So that's the reality of what's going on with these transactions.

And if one asks in that context: what's the thing which is subject of a first sale, and thus exhaustion and subsequent resale? It's not a literal copy of anything; what it is, it's an economic unit corresponding to a single instance of the software for which there's an accompanying right of use.

As I said earlier, another way to think about it possibly is as a token, and that token represents a single, notional, useable copy. Notional in the sense that it's not associated with any specific literally copy, but it can be associated with only one literally copy at any one time.

What UsedSoft tells us is that this notional copy is subject to exhaustion on first sale, just like a physical one is or a physical one would be. That of course makes complete sense because the rightsholder, by

selling a perpetual licence in respect of that notional copy and at a price that it voluntarily sets, has obtained what the authorities refer to as full economic value in respect of that copy.

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And there's therefore no basis on which the rightsholder should be able to come back for more in respect of that copy.

Now, once one appreciates that the subject of first sale and exhaustion in the digital world is an economic unit corresponding to a single, but non-specific useable copy of software -- useable in the sense that it comes with an accompanying right of use -- the answer, in my submission, to the preliminary 1 is actually clear and that's because if someone who owns an exhaustive copy of the software is entitled to resell that copy and, as UsedSoft puts it, has an ownership right in that copy, it follows that someone who owns exhausted copies of two different pieces of software, so, let's say, Windows and Office, is entitled to sell his copy of either or both pieces of software. And, if both are sold, there's no reason why they have to be sold to the same buyer. reason for that is that the distribution right in respect of each is exhausted, the rightsholders received full economic value for those copies and it has no further say in relation to the distribution of those

1 copies. That's the whole point of exhaustion.

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And that's what it means to say that the licensee has an ownership right, which is what the authorities say. And, if that's right, there's no principled basis to distinguish a scenario where two pieces of software are required pursuant to separate transactions -- so what one bought on Day 1, one bought on Day 2 -- and a scenario where both pieces of software are required pursuant to a single transaction, such as a volume licence, because in either case there's a perpetual licence to use each copy of each piece of software.

And that perpetual licence amounts to a first sale of each of those copies of each piece of software and the distribution right in respect of the licensee's copy of each -- physical obviously when you're dealing with a CD ROM, but intangible in the case of the UsedSoft sale -- has been exhausted, in return for which the rightsholders receive full economic value.

And for exactly the same reason someone who owns, say, two exhausted copies of a single piece of software, Office, for example, is entitled to resell either of those copies or both of those copies. And, again, here the reason is that the distribution right in each copy has been exhausted. And that's, again, here the case regardless of whether the copies were acquired pursuant

to one transaction or two and whether the licence is
granted under one contract or two, because there's
a difference between a contractual licence and a copy.

On a proper analysis, when we get to the Microsoft volume licences, what we will see is that they involve sales of large numbers of separate copies of software and Microsoft has received full economic value in respect of each copy.

And splitting of the volume licences -- by which I obviously mean selling part of the part of the cost of licences to some parties and part to someone else -- is permitted because the distribution right is exhausted in each and every licensed copy. The licensee owns each and every licensed copy. That, in essence, is ValueLicensing's case on PI 1. Obviously, I'm going to have to unpack that and make it good.

I'm going to structure my unpacking of that analysis around three broad propositions.

The first is that the doctrine of exhaustion is engaged separately in relation to each copy of software that's the subject of a first sale.

So that's obviously the first plank in my reasoning.

The second proposition is that, in the context of digitally distributed software, a copy is a notional rather than literal concept reflecting the economic and

- 1 practical reality of digital distribution. But copy
- 2 nonetheless remains the unit of account. Not
- 3 a contract, but a copy with its accompanying rights of
- 4 use. And that notional concept is the thing for which
- 5 the rightsholder received full economic value.
- 6 So that's my second proposition.
- 7 And the third proposition is that where you look at
- 8 volume licences, such as those in the sample
- 9 transactions, they involve first sale of multiple copies
- of software, with the consequence that the exhaustion of
- 11 the distribution right arises in respect of each
- individual copy and, therefore, each can be separately
- 13 resold.
- 14 So that's structure of the rest of the morning.
- 15 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: May I just check -- you're going to come
- 16 to this -- but something you said? I understand that
- 17 products are grouped into product suites, where
- 18 a customer is granted a licence for that combination of
- 19 products. Did you just say that part of the splitting,
- as you call it, is also the right to split up those
- 21 product suites or not?
- 22 MR LAVY: So no and yes. Can I --
- 23 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Okay.
- 24 MR LAVY: What I mean by that is where one takes
- an individual product suite which is sold for a fee,

- 1 it's one thing packaged together -- Office is the
- 2 obvious example in this case -- we are not saying that
- 3 you can split up Office and sell Word to one person and
- 4 Excel to another. And in fact it's no part of
- 5 ValueLicensing's case that in the counterfactual that
- 6 would have happened because that simply doesn't arise.
- 7 We are saying, however, that when under one volume
- 8 licence you've bought some copies of Windows and Office,
- 9 and you happen to have bought exactly the same number of
- 10 Windows and Office, you can sell Windows separately from
- 11 Office. So that's the level at which say you can split
- 12 products. We don't say you can then pull apart the
- individual products, as it were.
- 14 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Thank you.
- 15 MR LAVY: So proposition 1, exhaustions engaged in respect
- of individual copies.
- 17 The starting point, as I think I have already said,
- but it's the Software Directive Article 4. It is just
- 19 worth looking at it. I know the Tribunal is going to be
- 20 familiar with it. But it's in the authorities bundle,
- 21 tab 1 -- no, I lie, first off it is bundle tab 2, at
- 22 page 18.
- So, two pages in, Software Directive. We see
- 24 Article 4 starts by setting out the restrictive acts and
- 25 that's under Article 4(1) identifying the exclusive

rights. All familiar stuff. Reproduction, adaptation, 1 2 distribution to the public. And 1(c) is the 3 distribution right: "Any form of distribution to the public including rental of the original program or of copies thereof." 6 And then we have Article 4(2), which is the one I'm focused on: 7 8 "The first sale in the community of a copy of a 9 program by the rightsholder or with his consent shall 10 exhaust the distribution rights within the community of that copy with the exception of the right to control 11 further rental of the program or a copy thereof." 12 13 So rental rights carry on. But, otherwise, exhaustion in respect of that copy. 14 15 So we have here the notion of a first sale, 16 an exhaustion of the distribution right in that copy. Now, this is all familiar and uncontroversial stuff. 17 18 But one point to emphasise in light of some of 19 Microsoft's submissions is that the units, the subject 20 of first sale, and in respect of which the distribution right is exhausted, is not the licence; it's the copy. 21 22 The licence is of course highly relevant because it's

the means by which a perpetual user right is granted,

without which there would be no first sale of copy at

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all.

It's also the thing which gives the copy its

utility, because without a licence the software isn't

very much use. The copy of the software isn't very much

use and that would, of course, apply to something bought

on physical media, just as much as it does when you do

downloads.

And as we will see in a moment through UsedSoft, the user right granted under the licence has been held to accompany and be part and parcel of what's sold on a first sale. But the unit of account is nonetheless a copy. That's what it says, "that copy". It's not the licence.

Now, this is all reflected in the authorities.

I need to start with the Ranks case. It's a case in which Microsoft itself appeared before the CJEU because the case involved its software, including in fact Windows and Office as it happens. It's in the authorities bundle, second bundle, tab 35, and it's at page 832.

So, thank you. Ranks, this case arose from a criminal prosecution in Latvia involving what, on the face of it, were the sale of counterfeit CD ROMs, and it was argued that the CD ROMs could be legitimately sold on the basis that they were back-ups of damaged original media. And the question, therefore, for the CJEU was

- 1 whether back-ups made for that purpose under
- 2 Article 5(1) rights could be resold, and the answer is
- 3 they can't.
- 4 But, for our purposes at the moment, the relevance
- 5 of this case isn't what can be done with back-up copies;
- 6 it's what was said in the case about exhaustion. And we
- 7 see that if we pick it up on page 838 of the bundle, at
- 8 paragraph 34, right at the bottom of the page.
- 9 Now, rather than me reading out, because you will
- 10 probably hear quite enough of me today, could I possibly
- ask the Tribunal to read paragraphs 34 through to 36?
- 12 (Pause)
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay.
- 14 MR LAVY: Thank you. So exhaustion applies to a copy and
- 15 the accompanying -- that's the word used -- user licence
- 16 and the copy in question can be in either tangible or
- intangible form. So I rely on this and UsedSoft, which
- we're about to come to, for the proposition that the
- 19 copy is the unit of account for exhaustion purposes.
- 20 Albeit that copy, of course, becomes bundled with the
- 21 accompanying user right, otherwise it would be of no
- 22 use.
- 23 And that therefore brings us on to my proposition 2
- and UsedSoft, which is a copy -- proposition 2, a copy
- is a notional concept when one is dealing with

- 1 intangibles, but copy nonetheless remains the unit of
- 2 account.
- 3 Now, evidence from this passage of Ranks, that
- 4 there's exhaustion of a distribution right on first sale
- of a copy of software, regardless of whether it's
- a tangible or intangible copy, because that's what it
- 7 says, and in both cases the thing exhausted is the copy
- 8 that's sold. The only difference between the tangible
- 9 and the intangible case is what exactly is meant by the
- 10 copy. And the answer to that question is all given to
- 11 us in UsedSoft, which is in the same bundle at tab 28.
- 12 Is it right to assume that the Tribunal has at least
- some familiarity with UsedSoft --
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Of course, yes.
- 15 MR LAVY: -- the facts, et cetera?
- 16 Cracking straight on, then, with the analysis. As
- 17 the Tribunal knows, there were three questions in
- 18 UsedSoft. The one I'm focused on is the exhaustion
- 19 question, which was question 2, in usual CJEU way
- 20 slightly rephrased and done first. And the analysis of
- 21 the exhaustion issue starts at paragraph 35, page 760.
- 22 But I want to pick it up at paragraph 43, which is on
- 23 page 761.
- So, right at the end of paragraph 43, we see
- 25 a summary of a submission by Oracle:

1 "Neither the making a copy free of charge, nor the 2 inclusion after user licence agreement involves a transfer of the right of ownership of that copy." 3 And then at 44 to 48, we have the CJEU's answer to that point. It's quite a long passage, but could I ask 6 the Tribunal to read 44 through 48? It's an extremely important section. And I will make some points about 7 8 it. 9 (Pause) 10 Thank you. Sorry, I should have actually asked. It's rather rude of me, but are you happy to read your 11 own bits --12 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, of course. 13 MR LAVY: Some tribunals like reading themselves, but some 14 15 prefer me to read out to them. But I say you hear 16 enough of my voice. So, just to pull out a few points in particular, 17 18 firstly, the second sentence of paragraph 44 explains 19 the rationale for treating the downloading of a copy and 20 conclusion of a licence agreement for that copy as an indivisible whole. And the thing I rely on is: 21 22 "Downloading a copy of a computer program is 23 pointless if the copy cannot be used by its possessor."

calls the accompanying user licence in the passage we

So that's where the licence comes in and what Ranks

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- 1 have just seen.
- 2 Then the first sentence of 45, note that the CJEU
- 3 speaks of a right of ownership in the copy being
- 4 transferred.
- 5 So one can get -- slightly go off at a tangent,
- 6 wondering what that really means in the concept of
- 7 intangibles. But, for present purposes, the point is
- 8 they do speak of a right of ownership. And as always
- 9 with exhaustion, that's because there has been
- 10 an exchange. It's really an economic analysis. If a
- 11 rightsholder has received payment of a fee chosen by the
- 12 rightsholder which is defined to enable it to obtain
- 13 a remuneration corresponding to the economic value of
- 14 the copy.
- And once that fee is received, the rightsholder no
- 16 longer has the right to exploit the distribution right;
- it's relinquished its ownership of that copy. That's
- 18 the economic analysis.
- 19 And then the second sentence of 45, where it is
- 20 said:
- 21 "The making available by Oracle of a copy of its
- 22 computer program and the inclusion of the licence
- agreement for that copy are thus intended to make the
- copy useable by the customer permanently."
- So, again, just looking at that, in my submission

- the licence is very much -- of course it's important,

 but it's ancillary to the copy. The copy is the thing

 that's been purchased and the licensee now has ownership

 rights in relation to the copy. And the user rights and

 the licence have to pass for the copy because without

 them the thing that the licensee bought, its copy, would
- them the thing that the licensee bought, its copy, would otherwise be useless. And that's why you get, at 46:
- 8 "In those circumstances the operations mentioned in
 9 44 above examined as a whole involve the transfer of the
 10 rights of ownership of the copy of the computer program
 11 in question."
- So, consistently with Ranks, the UsedSoft analysis
 is concerned with transfer of ownership in a copy of
 software. I should probably say, by the way,
 consistency with Ranks, but of course Ranks came later,
 so I don't mean it's following it.
 - It's not a transfer of contractual rights, save in the limited and ancillary sense that I have already identified, the user rights have to go with the copy, but it's the transfer of ownership in copies of software.
- While we're here, it's also worth noting
 paragraph 49. Could I just ask Tribunal, please, to
 read paragraph 49?
- 25 (Pause)

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- 1 Thank you. So here, again:
- 2 "The notion of an exhausted copy is put in economic
- 3 terms by selling a perpetual licence and the price of
- 4 the rightholder's choosing the rightholder's
- 5 relinquished a right to charge further in respect of the
- 6 right it sold, the distribution rights exhausted, and
- 7 the accompanying user right attaches to the exhausted
- 8 copy."
- 9 Now, that economic point and the economic nature of
- 10 the analysis that the CJEU requires, in my submission,
- is reiterated again at paragraph 63, which is at
- 12 page 764, which, again, could I ask you -- I promise
- 13 I'm not going to do it with all the authorities, but
- 14 UsedSoft is obviously a pretty critical one today. So
- paragraph 63 in the middle of 764.
- 16 (Pause)
- 17 Thank you. So I'm emphasising this economic aspect
- because it drives the CJEU's reasoning. And in my
- 19 submission it's really the lodestar for understanding
- 20 the right approach to this issue overall; it's the
- 21 economic analysis.
- 22 So what exactly is the copy that's the subject of
- a first sale and exhaustion in the UsedSoft world? And
- it's clear from the skeletons there's a bit of
- 25 a difference of view on that.

Microsoft says -- and this is paragraph -- sorry,

yes, it is paragraph 18 of its skeleton -- that it's the

copy sitting on the rightsholder's website. But, in my

submission, there are three reasons why that must be

wrong.

The first is that the copy on the rightsholder's website isn't transferred to the licensee. What's actually happening is that the act of downloading and installing is creating an entirely new copy on the licensee's own computer. The website copy remains where it was, on the website.

Secondly, if the distribution right and the copy of the rightsholder's website were exhausted on the basis that it had been sold to a licensee, that would be rather unworkable in practice, given the analysis in UsedSoft, because it would mean that the rightsholder no longer owned that copy. And it follows that the rightsholder would have no business thereafter continuing to host that copy on its website for other customers.

So the consequence of UsedSoft is that although no physical media is involved, we're still dealing here with ownership of a copy and so it can't be the copy on the rightsholder's website. That can't be what is bought.

1	And, thirdly, Microsoft's analysis doesn't actually
2	reflect either the technical or, more importantly,
3	economic reality of what's going on, which is that on
4	first sale in return for a fee Microsoft has
5	relinquished its rights to have any further control over
6	the distribution of the copy that's sold.
7	Now, Microsoft relies, on paragraph 84 of UsedSoft,
8	for its submissions in this regard. That's on page 767.
9	In my submission, they read this passage far too
10	literally and they ignore the context.
11	So the paragraph starts, paragraph 84 starts by
12	paraphrasing the decision at 44 to 48. Now, we have
13	just looked at those paragraphs. The link they draw, in
14	my submission, is very clear. It is between the licence
15	and the act of downloading from the rightsholder's
16	website not between the licence and the website copy
17	itself. That's what we see at 44 to 48.
18	Now, what it then says, at 84, is:
19	"Having regards to that indivisible link between the
20	copy on the rightsholder's website as subsequently
21	corrected and updated on the one hand and the user

corrected and updated on the one hand and the user licence relating to the copy on the other, the resale of the user licence entails the resale of that copy."

Now, Microsoft's quote in its skeleton argument

but they're rather important, in my submission, for understanding the passage. And the reason for that is one can see the context of them at paragraph 67, at the bottom of page 764 to 68, and this is where the CJEU -- we're dealing with a slightly different issue, which is the question of if the acquirer of a perpetual licence enters into a service agreement whereby he can get patches; are those patches then treated as part of the exhausted copy? And so the reference to "as subsequently corrected and updated", in 84, is a reference back to the notion of them patching the copy you've downloaded from the website.

And so the copy that's referred to as 84 as having an indivisible link with the user licence isn't the copy on the rightsholder's website that the licensee originally downloaded; it's that copy as subsequently patched. It's something different. So whatever the thing is, it's not the original thing that was downloaded from the website. And so once the ellipsis in Microsoft quotes, replacing the actual words, 84 doesn't support their case. As I've already submitted, their case is also, in any event, inconsistent with the actual reasoning of this decision in the key paragraphs, which are paragraphs 44 to 48, which is that it's the act of downloading and the inclusion of a licence that

- 1 forms the indivisible whole.
- 2 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Could you just give me the paragraph
- 3 number of Microsoft's skeleton that you're referring to?
- 4 MR LAVY: Paragraph 18.
- 5 MR HOBBS: It's 17 and 18.
- 6 MR LAVY: I'm sorry.
- 7 (Pause)
- 8 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Thank you.
- 9 MR LAVY: So the copy that is the subject of exhaustion, in
- 10 my submission, isn't the one on the website.
- 11 So what are the alternative possibilities?
- One is that the exhausted copy is the one created by
- 13 the act of downloading from the website, and the other
- 14 possibility is the one I have submitted already is the
- 15 correct possibility, which is that the copy is not
- 16 a literally thing at all; it's something notional, which
- is the economic unit corresponding to a non-specific
- 18 copy coupled with the accompanying user right in
- 19 relation to that copy.
- Now, the reason why I say that's the right one is
- 21 that it's the only analysis, really, that is consistent
- 22 with what the CJEU said in UsedSoft about the economic
- 23 rationale for its approach. And, also, actually, what
- it says about download and resale.
- To try to explain what I mean by that, the starting

- point is paragraph 49, now, of UsedSoft, on page 762.
- 2 We have, I think, looked at this already. I have asked
- 3 the Tribunal to read it. But this time I emphasise that
- 4 it says:
- 5 "A sale of a copy of software is characterised as
- 6 all forms of product marketing characterised by the
- 7 grants of right to use a copy of a computer program for
- 8 an unlimited period in return for a payment of a fee
- 9 designed to enable the copyright holder to obtain
- 10 remuneration across ... economic value of the work."
- 11 So the actual form is irrelevant, CD ROM, download,
- or any sort of technical mechanism one might conceive
- of. The copy sold, according to this reasoning, is
- 14 an economic construct.
- Now, similarly, at paragraph 61, which is on
- page 763, the court refers, here, to functional
- 17 equivalence from an economic point of view between
- 18 tangible copies between CD ROM sales and internet
- 19 download sales. So the prism through which the CJEU is
- 20 looking is plainly the economic one. And that makes
- sense, because if one then looks at paragraph 62, on
- 22 page 764, what that makes clear -- I should let you read
- 23 it, sorry.
- 24 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Before I do -- I'm sorry to keep
- 25 interrupting. I just like to make sure I'm following.

- 1 You say the important point is the copy is the economic
- 2 unit corresponding to a non-specific copy coupled with
- 3 the accompanying or user right in relation to that copy.
- 4 Is that another way of saying: the right to make
- 5 copies?
- 6 MR LAVY: No, it's the right to have and use a single copy.
- 7 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Have and use a single copy. But it's
- 8 not a specific copy?
- 9 MR LAVY: But not a specific copy.
- 10 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: So it's actually just the right to make
- 11 a single copy?
- 12 MR LAVY: Well, yes. But it's a fungible single copy. So
- 13 let's say I buy a right -- let's keep it, for the
- 14 moment, away from Microsoft because -- software A.
- 15 I buy a copy, an intangible copy of software A.
- 16 That means I have the right -- well, I own a copy. What
- does that really mean? It means I am allowed to install
- 18 and use a copy.
- 19 Now, let's say I do that, I install a copy on to my
- 20 computer. There's nothing to stop me deleting that copy
- 21 and installing and using a different copy. But what
- I can't do is install two copies, one on this computer,
- one on the one back in chambers, unless I have two
- licences because that would require two copies. And so
- 25 the copy really is the -- it's this notional economic

- 1 construct. It's the thing that allows me to use
- a single one. I have bought a single one, but it's not
- 3 a piece of paper. It's not a CD ROM. It's just -- it
- 4 doesn't matter which one. I can create it. I can
- 5 download it. I can have it on a CD ROM, if that's the
- 6 way I've bought it. But what I can never do is have two
- 7 because I have one copy. Does that make sense? It's
- 8 slightly nebulous, but that's because it's an economic
- 9 construct and not a tangible one.
- 10 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Yes, I'm just trying to unpack the words
- 11 you were using so I could understand exactly what you
- 12 meant. Thank you.
- 13 MR LAVY: I stand to ask whether it's clear what I meant.
- 14 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Perfectly clear for the moment.
- 15 MR LAVY: Thank you.
- 16 I think we were looking at paragraph 61, which is
- 17 what the court says about economic point of view.
- And then paragraph 62, here the court is making
- 19 clear that the law on exhaustion is there to avoid the
- 20 partitioning of markets and to limit restrictions on
- 21 distribution to what is necessary to safeguard the
- 22 specific subject matter of the IP concerned.
- 23 And then critically, again, could I ask the Tribunal
- to now read, please, 63?
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: I think you asked us to read that already.

- 1 MR LAVY: I'm so sorry. In which case, having read 63,
- 2 precisely the mischief that the CJEU were anxious to
- 3 avoid would arise if the copy exhausted was the specific
- 4 copy of software downloaded on to the licensee's
- 5 computer at first sale. That's because that particular
- 6 copy would be stuck on the first licensee's computer
- 7 and, short of removing and selling their hard disk, they
- 8 wouldn't be able to resell it. So the exhaustion has to
- 9 attach to something nominal, to an economic construct,
- 10 otherwise the distribution right is absolutely
- 11 meaningless.
- 12 So I download a copy on to my machine, I use it,
- I then want to resell it. Well, unless the thing I am
- reselling is intangible, is a notional thing, how on
- earth do I resell it? I still have my computer. I can
- 16 do what UsedSoft says, which is delete my copy and sell
- my rights to have a copy to someone else. But what
- I can't do, short of hacking my hard disk out, is
- 19 actually sell the copy I have on my computer. That's
- 20 stuck on my computer until I delete it.
- 21 So the whole regime only works if a copy is
- a notional concept enshrining a nominal ownership right
- in one, but not any specific copy of the software
- coupled with the user right.
- 25 That's quite an important point. So if I have not

1 expressed that clearly I need to have another go.

It's also relevant in this context to note that software from a website is characterised in the judgment as an intangible copy, and it's not surprising, but one sees that at paragraph 59, page 763. The exhaustion of the distribution right concerns both tangible and intangible copies of a computer program and hence also copies of programs which, on the occasion of first sale, have been downloaded from the internet on to the first acquirer's computer.

Now, the downloaded physical copy is tangible, or at least it's no less tangible than a CD ROM, in both cases you have a disk with software on it. The intangible copy, by contrast, is the notional thing that constitutes the result of a transaction whereby the software is downloaded and a perpetual licence for it is purchased.

Now turning to what the court says about downloads and resale in this case. If we look, please, at paragraphs 77 and 78, on page 766, and, again, if I can just ask you to read those two paragraphs.

(Pause)

Thank you. So a distinction here is expressly made between the copy purchased and the copy downloaded. The passage draws an express distinction between the

- 1 notional copy that's the subject of exhaustion on the
- one hand and the copy on the first acquirer's computer
- 3 on the other. The original acquirer who resells
- an exhausted copy, referred to "as that copy" in
- 5 paragraph 78, has to make the copy downloaded on to
- 6 their computer unusable. Not make that copy unusable;
- 7 make the copy download onto their computer unusable.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: And that applies to tangible, equally to
- 9 tangible copies? So if you're selling --
- 10 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: So if you have a program on a CD, you upload
- 12 it on to your computer and then, when you want to sell
- it, it may be convenient to sell it, actually sell the
- 14 CD, and then you would be obliged in the same way to
- delete the original copy on your computer.
- 16 MR LAVY: Exactly, sir, yes. It's exactly the same
- 17 analysis.
- And in fact that's what Ranks says expressly. These
- 19 two are functionally equivalent, CD sale and download
- 20 sale.
- 21 Now, the final two paragraphs -- if I could please
- 22 ask the Tribunal to read for now -- are paragraphs 80
- 23 and 81, on page 763.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any cases that say that?
- 25 MR LAVY: That say that they're equivalent?

- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: No, that say you must delete when you're
- 2 selling a computer via a tangible copy you have to
- 3 delete the original. It might be said that you can't
- 4 run the original, but whether you have to delete it.
- 5 MR LAVY: I will check this over the lunch break, if I may.
- 6 But I think, actually, Ranks says that expressly. But
- 7 I will check that.
- 8 The final two paragraphs, 80 and 81.
- 9 (Pause)
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, this may be a very basic question.
- 11 But, if you're selling the your notional copy, why do
- 12 you need a licence? Doesn't that get picked up by
- 13 Article 5 in any event?
- 14 MR LAVY: Well, yes. You need a licence to run it. But
- 15 you're right that's --
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: Doesn't Article 5 give that you permission?
- 17 MR LAVY: Well, yes. But what the case seems to say is that
- 18 the accompanying user licence does run with it. But
- 19 it's a slightly odd logic, isn't it? Because what the
- 20 case also says is exactly that, that you do have a right
- 21 to reproduce under Article 5(1) because that's necessary
- in order to use the software. So there's a bit of
- a tension there in a way. But the analysis seems to be,
- 24 when the court is dealing with exhaustion, it says that
- you get the accompanying user right. Then, insofar as

- 1 you need it, you also have rights under Article 5(1) to
- 2 reproduce.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: There's not a lacuna that 5(1) doesn't pick
- 4 up that you need a licence for?
- 5 MR LAVY: The answer is -- on my case, no, there probably
- isn't. But we may have to come back to this in the
- 7 context of preliminary issue 2.
- 8 So I know I'm labouring this point, but it's quite
- 9 an important one, in my submission, for understanding
- 10 the UsedSoft approach, which is what we see here in
- 11 these two paragraphs, is that the mechanism for
- 12 reselling an exhausted copy of the software provided
- without physical media involves the subsequent acquirer
- 14 getting their own physical copy of the software, in that
- case from Oracle's website, and the first acquirer
- deleting their physical copy.
- 17 So the first acquirer's downloaded copy is not being
- 18 transferred to the subsequent acquirer. What's
- 19 happening is that the copy that the first acquirer has
- 20 is being deleted and then the subsequent acquirer is
- 21 making a fresh copy through a new download. And, if one
- looks at it in that way, what's being transferred is and
- can only be the notional copy, what I have called the
- economic unit, comprising a single but non-specific
- instance of the software with its accompanying user

1 right.

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And the deletion, of course, is a critical part of this process because it's the deletion which means that the same number of copies overall remain in circulation. And so from the rightsholder's perspective that's the important point. If you're standing back, it's actually entirely unsurprising that, in the context of the distribution right, copy is being treated in a notional way, rather than a literal way, because it reflects the practical and economic reality of what's actually going on when someone buys a perpetual licence to use a copy of a program. Whether one looks at it from the perspective of the rightsholder or the licensee, the specific physical manifestation of a copy is frankly neither here nor there because practical and economic reality is that a licensee who has bought one copy of software has paid for the ability, both legal and practical, to install and use one copy, any copy of the software, and the rightsholder, who sells that copy, receives payment in exchange for accepting that there's going to be one additional copy of its software in circulation. It doesn't matter which copy; it's the quantity that matters. The fact is there's now one more because you've sold one more. And that reality, in my submission, is reflected in the legal position as

- 1 articulated by UsedSoft.
- 2 But coming back to where I started, perhaps the more
- 3 important point for present purposes is that the thing
- 4 that's subject to exhaustion, the thing in which the
- 5 purchaser acquires what the authorities call
- an ownership right, and the thing which the purchaser is
- 7 entitled to resell, is copy of software with its
- 8 accompanying user right, not a contract, not even
- 9 a licence, as such, subject to the user right discussion
- 10 we have just been having, but a copy. And so it's
- 11 a copy that's the unit of currency if you're asking:
- 12 what is it that the licensee with perpetual licence has
- 13 an ownership right in?
- And that takes me on to proposition 3, which is to
- 15 start looking at volume licences and what they mean.
- 16 The overall submission I meant is that a volume
- 17 licence -- and sample transactions involve volume
- 18 licences -- involve the first sale of multiple notional
- 19 copies, with the consequence that exhaustion of the
- 20 distribution right arises in respect of each individual
- 21 copy and each individual copy can be separately resold.
- 22 And I will start with the principle, and then I will
- look at the sample transactions and the Microsoft case
- in particular.
- 25 So once a copy of the software is subject to

exhaustion the rightsholder no longer has the right to
restrict further distribution. That's what UsedSoft
says in terms at the paragraphs we have just been
looking at. For example, paragraph 77 says it a few
times. And that means that the rightsholder can no
longer oppose the resale of that copy. And it follows
that the rightsholder has no say as to who each copy is
sold to.

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It also follows that if the rightsholder has sold not just one exhausted copy, but multiple exhausted copies, it can no longer oppose the resale of any of them. And the reason for that is because it no longer has the distribution right in them. They have been sold. The ownership right lies in the licensee. And so that is the case regardless of whether all the resold is to the same person or some are resold to person A and some are resold to person B. And that must be so regardless of whether the copies were first purchased pursuant to a volume licence or through multiple separate transactions. And it must be so regardless of how many contracts there are. And that is because, as I have already submitted, the thing that is subject to exhaustion, the unit of account, as I like to put it, is the copy, not the contract pursuant to which one or more copies was purchased.

- 1 And there's actually no difference in this regard
- 2 between exhausted copies of software purchased pursuant
- 3 to a volume licence and a bulk purchase of widgets,
- 4 because in neither case does the fact of the bulk
- 5 purchase change the nature of what's purchased, even if
- 6 in both cases you might actually get a discount for
- 7 buying more of them.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: So, when you purchase the software, you may
- 9 have a copy on a central server, as a client, and then
- 10 you may have copies on work stations. Are the copies on
- 11 the work stations identical to the copy on the server?
- 12 Are they different? Is the software the same?
- 13 MR LAVY: That would depend on the software we're talking
- 14 about.
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Well, the software we're talking about.
- 16 MR LAVY: The software we're talking about. Yes, that
- 17 assumes a particular way of distributing software, which
- may or may not be the way that is used.
- 19 One way one could conceive of downloading and
- 20 distributing software, if you buy, say, 100 licences, is
- 21 download it to a central server and then copy it from
- 22 there.
- Now, in my submission, if you took that model -- and
- let's just use the number 100 -- you have 100 copies.
- 25 The thing you put on --

- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: 101 copies.
- 2 MR LAVY: Well, no, you have 101 physical manifestations.
- 3 You're not entitled use the copy on the server in that
- 4 scenario because that's not one of your notional copies.
- 5 That's merely part of the carrier. It's a bit like --
- 6 it's no different from, say, the internet cache, where,
- 7 say, it's a temporary convenience copy to allow to you
- 8 then install the copies you're entitled to install on --
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. So it's a conduit, really.
- 10 MR LAVY: Exactly, a conduit. But there's no -- and I will
- 11 come back to this on the evidence and what Microsoft say
- 12 about it -- but that's, of course, not the only way you
- can install software. What you might do is, you might,
- 14 100 times, go to the vendor's website and download it
- 15 100 times.
- 16 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: You're going to come to what we are
- 17 actually about in this case, though, are you?
- 18 MR LAVY: I'm sorry?
- 19 MR LYKIARDOUPOLOUS: You are going to come to what we are
- 20 actually talking about?
- 21 MR LAVY: Yes. We're going to look like the licences.
- We're going to look at the distribution mechanism,
- insofar as we know about it.
- 24 But it is important to sort of have very fixed, in
- 25 my submission, the principle first, before one then

- applies it because otherwise it can get muddled through
- 2 some of what's said about the evidence.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Right. But are we concerned here with -- you
- 4 have five transactions at play; were they downloaded to
- 5 a central server and then from the central server to the
- 6 workstations?
- 7 MR LAVY: I think the answer is the evidence doesn't
- 8 actually tell you, one way or the other.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Right.
- 10 MR LAVY: But also, in my submission -- and you will see why
- 11 shortly -- it doesn't actually matter. But the short
- 12 answer to why it doesn't actually matter --
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: We will come on to why it doesn't matter.
- We're just trying to have some fact. As you rightly
- point out, the evidence doesn't deal with that.
- 16 MR LAVY: The evidence doesn't deal with that.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: And the evidence doesn't tell us whether the
- 18 server is nothing more than a conduit for the
- 19 workstations.
- 20 MR LAVY: No.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Which you've submitted.
- 22 MR LAVY: I have submitted as a matter of analysis, not as
- 23 a matter of fact. That's my position.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Do we not need to understand this sort of
- 25 thing?

- 1 MR LAVY: Well, no, because the difficulty with that is, of
- course, it would depend on the transactions. And we're
- 3 dealing with -- it just comes right back up to this
- 4 case. We're dealing with a counterfactual. This is all
- 5 relevant to a counterfactual. And the counterfactual is
- 6 that, but for what we say is Microsoft's infringement of
- 7 competition law, there would have been a bigger market.
- 8 And so the question is -- and then, of course, Microsoft
- 9 come back and say: well, no, that would have been
- 10 an unlawful market.
- 11 So, that's right, it doesn't actually matter what
- might have happened in any particular transaction. What
- 13 matters is what was available as in a market in the
- 14 counterfactual. So could --
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: That might or might not be right. Without
- 16 chasing hares, one can think of circumstances where that
- 17 could be relevant, depending on whether Mr Hobbs is
- 18 right in his submissions or not. But, anyway, the
- 19 position is we don't know.
- 20 MR LAVY: We don't know. But, of course, if one goes down
- 21 that path, the difficulty is one can't look at the
- 22 sample transactions; one has to look at all the
- 23 transactions and then there's the question --
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: For example, you could say that there are
- contracts where they're downloaded directly on to the

- 1 computer. There are contracts where they're downloaded
- on to a server, and here is an example of one and here
- 3 is an example of another.
- 4 MR LAVY: I suppose so. The difficulty is those things
- 5 aren't contractually controlled. It's a matter of what,
- 6 in practice, people did.
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: Right.
- 8 MR LAVY: So that's why -- because I could well see if one
- 9 had a contractual scenario that said, "This is how it
- 10 must be done", then that's one thing.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: When these programs are updated, they will be
- 12 updated directly on to the work stations or will the
- central server get updated? Or has the central server
- 14 be forgotten about?
- 15 MR LAVY: Again, there's no evidence on it, but certainly my
- 16 understanding is that individual work stations get
- 17 updated.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Right. So you say insofar as there are
- 19 servers involved, they're just a conduit for
- 20 distributing --
- 21 MR LAVY: I do. Because what we're dealing with -- or at
- least what we're dealing with principally with in this
- 23 argument, and certainly exclusively for PI 2 and mainly
- for PI 1 is desktop software. It's Microsoft's Windows
- operating system and Microsoft Office, which as you know

- is a desktop set of productivity tools.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 3 MR LAVY: And we will come on to this in the client server
- 4 context. But we're not in this case dealing with
- 5 something like an Oracle database with a client and
- 6 server component.
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. I mean, we don't know much about what
- 8 the situation was around Oracle. It's not really
- 9 explained in the decision.
- 10 MR LAVY: No, it's not. You get slightly more out of the
- 11 German decisions, but not much more.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Not much.
- 13 MR LAVY: Not much. The important thing, though, from our
- 14 perspective, and I say it's an important -- simply
- 15 because it's where most of the money is, it's Windows
- and Office. So, insofar as one is focused on
- a particular model, it's desktop software installed on
- workstations and the question is how they get to those
- 19 workstations.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: If you're the first acquirer of the software
- and you sell on, you may have created a copy on the new
- 22 server that you're selling to company X, that they
- download on to their server -- as you say, they're not
- 24 actually going to physically take it from you.
- 25 MR LAVY: They get it from Microsoft.

- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: They get it from Microsoft. They then
- 2 download it onto their server. And then from that
- 3 server they distribute to their 100 people. Let's
- 4 assume your original licence for 100, you're selling it
- for 100, but you have created an extra copy. You now
- 6 have 101 copies in company X.
- 7 MR LAVY: Well, again, just to caveat, they may do that and,
- 8 frankly, that would be a sensible way of doing it.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 10 MR LAVY: But, if you're doing that and you haven't, in my
- 11 world, got 101 copies. You have 101 physical copies, of
- 12 course you have. But as soon as you start using -- as
- 13 soon as you double click on Word -- you're not going to
- install it. It's just a file. That's the difference,
- isn't it? On the workstations, you're going to install
- 16 the software. It's going to be useable. Double click
- on the Word icon, the word processor pops up and they
- 18 can start using it.
- 19 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Is it installed on the server?
- 20 MR LAVY: No, you can't install it on the server unless you
- 21 have a licence to. On the server -- on the model that
- 22 the chairman is proposing, all you have on the server is
- an installation file. You wouldn't then install it on
- 24 the server. And if you did so without having a licence
- you would be infringing copyright.

- 1 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: So there's no copy on a server?
- 2 MR LAVY: There will be a copy -- on that hypothesis, there
- 3 will be a copy of the installation file, which is not a
- form of the software that can be used.
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: But you say whatever it is it's no different
- 6 to the rights the first acquirer had?
- 7 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: But then, when you start splitting these
- 9 contracts, it's a little bit more complicated because
- 10 now have two servers that you're downloading to and
- 11 then --
- 12 MR LAVY: As in the first acquirer's and the second
- 13 acquirer's.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. So the first acquirer downloads one
- 15 copy on to their server and then distributes 100 copies
- 16 to the workstation. And you say you never run that copy
- on the server; it's just there as an installation file.
- 18 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: I'm not sure the relevance of that. But it's
- 20 not run on the central server, but you have a copy
- 21 there. So that licence that you got from Microsoft
- 22 covered the 100 workstations and also permitted download
- on to the server for the purposes of distributing to the
- 24 100 workstations, and that's it. And if you then sell
- on to company X those 100 contracts -- again, company X

- 1 does the same thing, goes up to Microsoft, one on to the
- 2 server and 100 copies to the workstation. So it's done,
- 3 and all the others have been deleted. But, if you sell
- 4 to two, X and Y, you end up with an extra copy because
- 5 you now still have 50 plus 50, but you have two servers.
- 6 MR LAVY: Well, yes. But, in that scenario, what you have
- 7 is -- I mean, that's where your Article 5(1) comes in.
- 8 Insofar as that's the way you have to install them, then
- 9 you have -- you're exercising a reproduction right and
- it's a reproduction necessary to use your copy because,
- as I say, that's --
- 12 (overspeaking)
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 14 MR LAVY: Yes, because the critical point is: this server,
- on any view, is just a staging post.
- 16 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: On that scenario, is it necessary?
- 17 Because I thought you could also get it from the
- 18 Microsoft server. So it's not necessary to have another
- installation file, is it?
- 20 MR LAVY: Well then, if it's not necessary -- but this is --
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Because it's not necessary for use --
- 22 MR LAVY: This is the chairman's hypothesis. But, if that's
- 23 a necessary part of installing it, then you have
- 24 a licence to reproduce under Article 5(1). Now, if it's
- 25 not --

- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: Just explain how it falls within 5(1).
- 2 MR LAVY: Because if that is the method that one has to use
- 3 in order to get it on to a workstation.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: If?
- 5 MR LAVY: If, yes.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: It's also not what 5(1) says, is it? Just
- 7 have a look at it.
- 8 It's not necessary for the use of the computer
- 9 program because, as you rightly point out, the server is
- 10 not using the computer program. I say rightly, I don't
- 11 know if it's right. The server is just distributing it.
- 12 MR LAVY: Yes. Well then, if there is a mechanism -- which
- I actually say there is, because in a sense we're
- dealing with in that hypothetical -- whereby one can
- 15 download directly from Microsoft on to the workstation,
- 16 then one doesn't need the server copy. I can see that.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: I understand that. I have that.
- 18 MR LAVY: But, in that scenario, it may be that the Tribunal
- 19 concludes that where volume licences are split and
- 20 resold the distribution mechanism has to be that each of
- 21 the 100 workstations has to download directly from
- 22 Microsoft. But it doesn't fundamentally affect --
- I mean, in a sense, I'm quite relaxed about that
- 24 conclusion because it doesn't affect the analysis. It
- doesn't affect the size of the markets to which

- 1 ValueLicensing could have sold them to.
- 2 PROFESSOR LIANOS: Could it not affect the answer? Could it
- 3 not affect -- for instance, if it matters how many
- 4 copies, notional copies you end up with compared to
- 5 where you were at the beginning, say you have -- for
- 6 instance, the rights owner has grant X number of
- 7 licences and you now have X plus two or X plus one
- 8 because of a server licence or a server copy; does that
- 9 not matter?
- 10 MR LAVY: No, because I say that server copy is not
- 11 a notional copy. It's not something in respect of which
- 12 you have an ownership right and an associated right to
- 13 use. You only have 100. You don't have 101. So it can
- only be a mere carrier. As soon as you click on it and
- 15 try to use it to run Office you're infringing copyright
- 16 because you don't have a licence for it. That is not
- 17 your copy.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Is that a convenient moment to have
- 19 five minutes for the stenographer?
- 20 MR LAVY: Now is as good a time as any, frankly.
- 21 (11.43 am)
- 22 (A short break)
- 23 (11.53 am)
- 24 MR LAVY: So just two points. One, the chairman asked me
- 25 earlier about whether there was any authority to the

- 1 proposition that you have to delete copies.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, with CDs and so on.
- 3 MR LAVY: Yes. I said I thought there was something in
- 4 Ranks. Ranks, paragraph 55, deals with the point. And
- 5 although it doesn't expressly say "tangible copies"
- 6 neither is it expressly dealing only with intangible
- 7 copies. It's speaking in generalities. So that's
- 8 paragraph 55.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Right.
- 10 MR LAVY: Now, there's just two points on this staging post
- 11 that we were discussing just before the break. The
- 12 evidential issue that arises here is that there's no
- 13 pleaded issue. And I'm not taking a pleading point;
- this is just a matter of practicality. That although
- 15 Microsoft raise an awful lot of reasons why they say
- that resale of bits of volume licence is unlawful, no
- 17 point is taken in the pleadings that putting an extra
- 18 copy on the server, so you can distribute, is a problem.
- 19 And therefore that's just not a point which has arisen.
- 20 It's not a point that there's evidence on. Certainly it
- is not a point we put evidence in on.
- 22 But, in any event, if that was an issue, it's
- 23 equally an issue for the first acquirer. It's not
- 24 an exhaustion issue. If the way, in the real world,
- 25 software is distributed is you download a copy to your

- server and then you spring it out to the workstations,
- 2 well, that means whenever you buy, say, 100 copies of
- 3 Office you have to buy 101 so you can have one sitting
- 4 conveniently on your server for distribution. And that,
- 5 in my submission, is not how it works. So I say it is
- 6 a non-point.
- 7 And if one asks why it's a non-point, it's because,
- 8 on analysis, those things aren't copies in the economic
- 9 sense, insofar as one needs to exercise the reproduction
- 10 right, which one obviously does if one is being legally
- 11 technical about it, then there must be an implied right
- 12 to do that, if that is the standard way in which
- 13 software is distributed.
- But, as I had just before the break, I do submit,
- actually, in the context of this case it doesn't
- 16 actually matter very much anyway, because if the answer
- 17 to the issue is that ValueLicensing's customers had to
- 18 be instructed to download directly to workstations from
- 19 Microsoft's website in each case, fine. So be it.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: As I understand, you say these proceedings
- 21 concern server software and desktop software?
- 22 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 23 THE CHAIRMAN: Just explain what you mean by that.
- 24 MR LAVY: Let's have a quick look then, shall we, at -- can
- I ask you to look at bundle A, statement of fact? And

- 1 I was going to go to this later, but we may as well do
- 2 it now. And if I look at ... if you look at tab 2,
- 3 schedule 1, and this is the Rabobank enrolment. And if
- 4 you look at the very first page, it's a list of total
- 5 sales by-product in the EEA and you can see there that
- 6 it's 85 core infrastructure server suite data centre
- 7 licences, some CALs, then Office, remote desktop
- 8 services and Windows Server 2016 Standard Core.
- 9 Now, just focusing on Windows Server 2016 Standard
- 10 Core, that's server software, so you don't install that
- on your workstation; you install that on your server.
- 12 And if --
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: What does it do?
- 14 MR LAVY: That is just -- it's an operating system for
- servers.
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: I see, okay.
- 17 MR LAVY: So it's different software for different things,
- 18 as it were.
- 19 The reason for all the focus on Office and Windows
- 20 is that's the vast majority from a financial
- 21 perspective, but there are these other bits of software.
- 22 And, plainly, where you have server software, exactly
- 23 the same analysis applies. But then the question is:
- how many copies are you allowed to install on servers?
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, understood.

- 1 MR LAVY: So, in my submission, anything less than complete
- 2 freedom for a perpetual licensee to resell their
- 3 exhausted copies, separately or in bundles, or however
- 4 they choose and in whatever volumes, would be
- 5 an unwarranted restriction on the principle of
- 6 exhaustion going beyond what is necessary to safeguard
- 7 the specific subject matter of the IP concerned. And
- 8 that's an important point because if that's the case it
- 9 would be contrary to the objective of the principle of
- 10 exhaustion as explained in terms in UsedSoft, at
- paragraph 62 and 63.
- Now, we have looked at those paragraphs, but could
- I ask you to look at what Mr Bot says. I was going to
- 14 call him the Attorney General, but the Advocate General,
- 15 Bot, at paragraphs 43 to 46, and that's at page 744 of
- 16 tab 28.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, this is just the starting point of
- 18 exhaustion.
- 19 MR LAVY: Yes. But it's just worth grounding ourselves in
- 20 the sort of EU law principle, which is that -- well,
- 21 it's Article 36, isn't it? You can't have a fetter on
- free movement of goods beyond that. I will let you read
- 23 it.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, I have read it.
- 25 MR LAVY: Thank you. I'm sorry. I'm conflating two points.

- 1 It would also be an unwarranted fetter on the free
- 2 movement and that's the FAPL point we refer to in our
- 3 skeleton. I wasn't going to take you to it. But what
- 4 the FAPL case says -- we can look it; I'm just conscious
- 5 of the time -- is that in the context -- this was the
- 6 context of a case about the free movement of services,
- 7 (inaudible). But restrictions relied on to protect
- 8 intellectual property rights can't go beyond what's
- 9 necessary in order to obtain the objective of protecting
- 10 those rights. And the reference I give --
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: Just give me a reference for the authority.
- 12 Which tab?
- 13 MR LAVY: Yes, it's authorities bundle, page 660, tab 24.
- 14 Football Association Premier League case.
- 15 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Is there anything more you're getting
- 16 out of the that than the Court of Justice say in this
- 17 case at paragraph 63?
- 18 MR LAVY: Yes, let's just have a quick look at it.
- 19 MR LYKIARDOUPOLOUS: They refer to it there, in
- paragraph 63.
- 21 MR LAVY: Yes, that's exactly the point. It's the
- 22 Article 36 point.
- 23 And the reason the fetter will be unjustified in
- 24 this case is that when the distribution rights in a copy
- 25 has been exhausted it follows that the rightsholders

received full payment for that copy being in circulation. So the rightsholder has no more economic interest in that copy. That's the point. And that, of course, is the same regardless of whether the first acquirer has bought one copy, ten copies or 10,000 copies, because the distribution rights exhausted in respect of each copy and the rightsholder has no further economic interest in any of the copies because it's been paid for them.

And as I said before, it may be that if it's been lucky enough to find a licensee who wants 10,000 it's offered a discount. But that's no different from any walk of commercial life. It doesn't mean that in this context they haven't received full economic value for putting that copy in circulation; they have.

And that really is all there is to the principle of preliminary issue 1. One has exhausted copies. They have been sold. That's the language.

Now, I was going to move now on to the point that we have sort of touched on tangentially a few times, which is Microsoft's argument based on UsedSoft that you can't start splitting licences. And what that argument Microsoft runs does is it ignores what I submit is an obvious and critical difference between a volume licence and a multiuser licence for client server

- 1 software. Those are really fundamentally different
- 2 beasts. And we will look at UsedSoft in a moment.
- 3 But, with a volume licence, first sale has resulted,
- 4 as I have submitted already, in multiple exhausted
- 5 copies of software, each of which the licensee owns.
- But, in the client server scenario, it's completely
- 7 different. There's only one copy of the server
- 8 software, the database in the Oracle case. The
- 9 accompanying user licence may permit several people to
- 10 access that copy and possibly even download client bits
- of it on to their workstations. I actually think the
- judgment is probably wrong about that, but it doesn't
- 13 matter. Let's take it at face value.
- But there's still one copy of the server software
- running on the server, and you can't go splitting,
- 16 obviously, that sort of user licence and selling bits to
- 17 different people.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: If the analysis is all notional and you're
- 19 just saying 'have they received the economic benefit?'
- and so forth, and they have their money for 100 users
- and now you want to sell it to 1,550 and everything is
- 22 notional and it's not about real copies; why not?
- 23 MR LAVY: Because it's completely different, because what
- 24 they have sold is 50 users, or 25 users, whatever the
- 25 number is, and one copy of the database server. If you

- 1 want to -- you're not just paying for the users. You're
- 2 paying to have a big, fat Oracle database running on
- 3 your server and that is worth something. So you have --
- 4 if you want two copies of the database --
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: It may depend how the contracts are
- 6 structured. If they're structured per user or
- 8 clear why that conclusion is reached in UsedSoft.
- 9 MR LAVY: Sir, can you give me a moment?
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Of course.
- 11 MR LAVY: Yes, I think there may be something evidentially
- 12 that might help in that particular case. But, while
- 13 that happens -- no, because one has to separate out --
- I understand your point, sir. It's that, in a way, if
- 15 you've --
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: Someone is trying to help you.
- 17 MR LAVY: Sorry, false alarm. So maybe the way to do it is
- 18 this way --
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Say Oracle was selling their software, it's
- 20 £100 per user, and it just happened to sit on a separate
- server, but nevertheless that's the economic value they
- instruct, and you have the same number of users when you
- 23 sold the software, the fact that there are two --
- 24 necessarily have to be two copies on different servers,
- I don't see why, in those circumstances, it necessarily

- 1 follows that that's illegitimate.
- 2 MR LAVY: Well, I think the answer is -- there are two
- 3 answers. There's the conceptual one and then there's
- 4 the actual one in the Oracle case. I'm going to
- 5 hopefully try to make this good, because I think I have
- 6 seen it somewhere. But, in the Oracle case, that's
- 7 simply not how it works. One has to pay more for
- 8 licence plus users on the one hand and just extra users
- 9 on the other. But the conceptual point is it is --
- firstly, when you're looking at full economic value,
- 11 you're not asking yourself the question how many pounds
- 12 and pence were paid. You're asking yourself the
- 13 question: has the rightsholder voluntarily sold that
- 14 copy?
- 15 And the server software is fundamentally different,
- 16 because when you have server software serving multiple
- 17 users -- take the contrary database case that server
- 18 software is sitting there crunching away, it's
- 19 performing an economically valuable service. It's
- 20 hosting data. It's crunching data. It's doing
- 21 searches, whatever, whatever it's doing, and having two
- 22 machines sitting doing that is twice as much.
- 23 THE CHAIRMAN: So if it's server software --
- 24 MR LAVY: It's server software.
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: -- and you're the first acquirer, you can't

- then sell it to other downstream --
- 2 MR LAVY: Not if you only have the one copy, no, because --
- 3 well, we can see how this -- we will look at it in the
- 4 context of UsedSoft in a second.
- 5 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Do we have to worry about that with the
- 6 Windows Server 2016 Standard Core, for instance?
- 7 MR LAVY: No, because there's no argument on VL's side that
- 8 we're entitled to, say, take -- a little bit careful
- 9 here to get this right. But the Windows server software
- 10 that we are selling, we are selling a copy of the
- 11 server; we're not saying we're allowed to sell the
- 12 server twice and chop the licences up, if you see what
- I mean?
- 14 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Right.
- 15 MR LAVY: In a way, it's exactly the same as what we say is
- 16 the correct analysis of Oracle. If we have Windows
- server, we can sell it, one copy, we can sell it once.
- 18 It doesn't matter --
- 19 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Right. Okay, that's fine. I don't
- 20 think we need to --
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay, for now. We can see what (inaudible)
- has to say.
- 23 MR LAVY: Thank you. So the distinction that I am making is
- 24 actually very clear, in my submission, from UsedSoft
- itself. If one looks at paragraph 69 of UsedSoft,

- that's page 765, we have looked at this paragraph
 already, I think.
- 3 So when they say:

"It should be pointed out that if the licence acquired by the first acquirer relates to a greater number of users than he needs, as stated above, the acquirer is not authorised by the effect exhaustion of a distribution right to divide the licence and resell only the user right for the computer program concerned corresponding to the number of users determined by him."

That is precisely because we're dealing with client server software, and you can see that at paragraph 21 of UsedSoft. It's page 757:

"The user right for such a program which is granted by a license agreement includes the right to store a copy of the program permanently on a server and to allow a certain number of users to access it by downloading it to the main memory of their workstations."

As I said before, I'm not actually sure the CJEU has that quite right. It seems like quite a strange suggestion, but it doesn't matter. Because even taking it at face value, what's being said here is that you have a copy of the Oracle software installed on the server and 25 users can access it, which apparently involves in some way making a transient copy in the RAM

- 1 on their computer.
- Now, using software obviously always involves making
- 3 a transient copy in RAM. The software will also be in
- 4 RAM of the server, otherwise you won't be able to do any
- 5 database serving. But, for our purposes, the critical
- 6 point is that the licences in question were not for 25
- 7 copies of Oracle's server, but one copy of Oracle's
- 8 server with 25 users allowed to access it. So on
- 9 a first sale only one server copy is exhausted and,
- 10 therefore, only one copy can be resold. And in fact
- 11 that precise problem is identified. If one then looks
- at paragraphs 70 to 71 of UsedSoft, on page 765. Can
- I just ask you to read that?
- 14 (Pause)
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. I have those in mind, yes.
- 16 MR LAVY: Thank you. And so the nub of the issue is the
- second sentence of paragraph 70:
- 18 "In situations such as that mentioned in the
- 19 preceding paragraph the customer of the copyright holder
- 20 will continue to use the copy of the program installed
- on the server ..."
- That's the point. And one just has to run the very
- 23 simple thought experiment to realise that must be right.
- 24 What happens if you just -- you're a first acquirer, you
- 25 have your 25 user licences in your database server and

- 1 you decide you only need 24, so you sell one of them.
- Well then, you have an immediate problem. You no longer
- 3 have the right to run the server, so your 24 users are
- 4 stuffed.
- 5 So that's all that's going on here.
- 6 And that's not the situation we're concerned with
- 7 here in the context of PI 1, because -- and I will
- 8 promise I will go to the sample transactions in
- 9 a second -- the volume licences, certainly the bulk of
- 10 them that VL divided and resold, and the ones that on
- 11 VL's case would have been resold in the counterfactual
- in far greater quantities but for what we say is the
- infringement of competition law were licences to
- 14 separate copies of desktop software and, in some cases,
- 15 server software, but separate copies. So this is about
- 16 divulging bulk licences which allow to you install
- multiple copies; it's not about multiple user access
- 18 rights for one copy.
- 19 And the real significance, then, of paragraphs 69
- and 70 of UsedSoft, for our purposes, is really to
- 21 reiterate that the unit of currency under the
- 22 Software Directive is the copy. That is the thing in
- which there's an ownership right. And that feeds
- through to their client server analysis. And I say,
- 25 actually, it precisely supports the points I make about

- 1 the way copies work.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: In paragraph 70, if the original acquirer
- 3 hasn't deleted, it's the original acquirer who will
- 4 infringe?
- 5 MR LAVY: Yes, because it has a copy --
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: Not the --
- 7 MR LAVY: That's exactly right.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: -- the person who has purchased.
- 9 MR LAVY: Yes, because it has an unlicensed copy,
- 10 effectively. It sold its right.
- 11 Now, interestingly, this splitting issue that arises
- on our facts and this distinction I have been probably
- 13 rather labouring was, although it's not specifically the
- 14 subject of CJEU case law, it has been considered in
- 15 detail in UsedSoft 3. And that's Germany's highest
- 16 court, which I dare not pronounce. I'm just going to
- 17 call it the German federal court. And that we can find
- in the third authorities bundle, tab 59, page 1506.
- 19 Microsoft is rather scathing about this in its
- 20 skeleton and I will come back to what they say about it,
- 21 but let's start with the authority.
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, we have looked at it, so you can take us
- 23 through reasonably --
- 24 MR LAVY: Thank you very much. As you will have seen, then,
- sir, it's discount licensing, bulk licensing, and then

- 1 a resale. One of the issues the court addressed was
- whether it was permissible to split the 40 licences and
- 3 the court held unequivocally it was.
- 4 Could I just ask you to look specifically at
- 5 page 1523, paragraph 44.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: Just while we're looking at that, the
- 7 particular software that they were concerned with --
- 8 they refer to quite a lot of different programs in
- 9 paragraph 1, but then they only go on to consider 1. Is
- 10 that right? I wasn't quite sure.
- 11 MR LAVY: It's --
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: The Adobe Creative Suite, which included all
- 13 these, did it?
- 14 MR LAVY: Exactly. It's Illustrator and Photoshop and all
- those sorts of things, desktop software for image
- manipulation, will be a high level summary.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: It may not matter, but when we come on to
- issue 2 presumably these will have had --
- 19 MR LAVY: Absolutely.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: -- interfaces which --
- 21 MR LAVY: Yes. And, in my submission, almost all software
- does these days. But, yes, this is an example and it's
- 23 an example I rely on.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. Right, sorry, I took you out of your
- 25 way.

- 1 MR LAVY: No, that's fine. So, if we pick it up at 44, so
- 2 this is the point from UsedSoft, paragraph 69, which we
- 3 have just been looking at. But then if you look at
- 4 what's said at paragraph 45, they drew exactly the
- 5 distinction that I'm seeking to draw here.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, we have that in mind.
- 7 MR LAVY: Thank you very much. And then, at 48, they apply
- 8 it to the facts. And we say the German federal court
- 9 had this exactly right. Just briefly going through the
- 10 reasons Microsoft give for disregarding what the German
- 11 court says here, and this is paragraph 55 of their
- skeleton, I'm just going very briefly through each of
- 13 the subparagraphs of this.
- 14 First, they say, well, it's not -- the reasoning
- 15 here isn't based on UsedSoft; it's based on the German
- 16 authorities. Well, plainly, the UsedSoft doctrine is
- 17 what's being dealt with here.
- 18 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Sorry, I just -- it was just that you
- 19 mentioned -- you asked us to read 44 and 45 and said you
- 20 relied on them. Earlier on the chairman asked you,
- 21 looking back as to what -- who the Court of Justice said
- 22 was infringing if copies had not been made unusable, and
- 23 the Court of Justice said it was the original purchaser.
- What the German court says, at the end of 45, is:
- 25 "In such a case the subsequent purchaser of copies

- can therefore successfully invoke the exhaustion
- 2 principle if the initial purchaser has rendered
- 3 a corresponding number of copies unusable."
- 4 Do you say that's correct in your case or that,
- 5 actually, it is a matter whether or not the subsequent
- 6 purchaser can invoke exhaustion depends on what the
- 7 initial purchaser has done?
- 8 MR LAVY: Logically, I actually think that's probably not
- 9 the right analysis. And I think one has to be,
- 10 obviously, a little bit careful because this is all
- 11 rather tersely expressed. All they're really saying
- 12 here, in my submission, is that you can't have both,
- because they're not looking specifically at the point
- 14 who might be an infringer.
- 15 It doesn't hugely matter for the larger point
- I make, but --
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, I didn't mean to interrupt.
- 18 MR LAVY: No. But I actually think that read literally this
- is not quite right.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: So exhaustion takes place, at what point?
- Does it take place at the point of sale?
- 22 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 23 THE CHAIRMAN: So it's blind to whether people are going to
- 24 delete downstream copies when they sell on?
- 25 MR LAVY: Well, it must be, sir, because it's first sale, so

- 1 you have an exhausted copy. And that's why I say, with
- 2 respect, the chairman's analysis is right on what the
- 3 consequences of a failure to delete are.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Failure to delete may mean there's copyright
- 5 infringement, but it doesn't mean there isn't
- 6 exhaustion?
- 7 MR LAVY: That, I think, is where the analysis takes one.
- 8 And you're absolutely right, sir, that's not what it
- 9 says here, but they're not specifically dealing with
- 10 that issue.
- 11 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: I was more interested what your case was
- 12 based on that. You asked us to read it. It a seems to
- me you've discussed it now.
- 14 MR LAVY: That's absolutely a fair point. I think,
- 15 ultimately, my case doesn't turn on this point because
- we say as a matter of fact we don't say in
- 17 a counterfactual there would have been a problem with
- deletion. But if the logic of my analysis is that it's
- 19 the first sale --
- 20 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Rights can be exhausted, but it doesn't
- 21 mean necessarily that the first acquirer doesn't
- 22 infringe --
- 23 MR LAVY: Exactly.
- 24 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: -- because if an acquirer ends up with
- a copy that they shouldn't have.

- 1 MR LAVY: That's exactly the logic of my position.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: The alternative is to say -- well, say one
- 3 looks at the series of transactions holistically and,
- a bit like a quantum universe, the way form doesn't
- 5 collapse until you know whether the original copy has
- 6 been destroyed. But, in principle, there's nothing
- 7 wrong with looking at it holistically, is there?
- 8 MR LAVY: Save that you have this problem -- there's
- 9 an analytical problem, if you look at it that way, which
- is that on the first sale you have exhaustion. And
- 11 exhaustion means something in intellectual property law,
- and so you can't retrospectively unexhaust something
- because the sale didn't quite get (inaudible). That's
- 14 why I think, with respect, the chairman's analysis is
- 15 right, because it all varies from the fact of first sale
- 16 exhausting the distribution right.
- So, just briefly, the six reasons, at 55, why we
- have to ignore UsedSoft 3. The first one, as I say,
- 19 plainly it is based on UsedSoft.
- 20 Secondly, it is said that this doesn't apply to
- 21 licences that require an entire enterprise to be
- licensed. I will come on to that point when we look at
- 23 the licences. But the short answer is it makes no
- 24 material difference whether you have to licence your
- whole enterprise or not, and I will explain why shortly.

Then it's said that UsedSoft 3 contradicts UsedSoft,

but it doesn't. It only contradicts UsedSoft if you

assume what you set out to prove, which is that client

server programs and desktop programs are the same in

this regard.

55.4 they make an assertion which, in my submission, makes no real sense, because where you have more than one copy of software and you sell one copy, well, you retain the other one in your possession. There's no problem with that.

And, finally, on 55.5, the distinction that's made by Microsoft between selling all licences bought under a volume licence and selling only some is a distinction without a difference when one looks at this through the economic prism through which I say the CJEU says you have to look at all this.

So I do say there's nothing in the criticisms of the relevant aspect of UsedSoft 3 and the distinction they draw between the client server scenario and the volume licensing scenario is right.

Of course, it's not binding on the Tribunal, but

I do say that it's persuasive authority that can give
you comfort, that what I am saying about the difference
between volume licences and client server licences is
right.

- 1 Now, just while we're in this judgment, could I ask
- you, please, briefly to look at 39 and 40, which is on
- 3 page 1522?
- 4 (Pause)
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, we have looked at --
- 6 MR LAVY: This is the point, obviously, about the
- 7 discounting.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 9 MR LAVY: The chairman has the point. But the real point is
- it's a voluntary sale at a voluntary price. One doesn't
- 11 look at what the price is. What matters is the
- 12 rightsholders agreed to relinquish their rights in
- 13 return for it. And the same reasoning applies to the
- 14 points -- the reason I raise it applies to the point my
- learned friends make in 52.4(f) of their skeleton about
- 16 enterprise volume discounts. It's the same thing.
- I think I have already said that you get the same
- 18 with widgets, volume licences, volume purchases tend to
- 19 attract a discount. Great.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: The same thing happens with books. I don't
- 21 know if you still get discounted student books, student
- 22 versions of textbooks. But the student -- the student
- is entitled to sell them on or not is a matter between
- 24 the student and the vendor, but it doesn't impact buying
- 25 the textbook off the student.

- 1 MR LAVY: Because the distribution right and the copy has
- been exhausted. It's the same analysis.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 4 MR LAVY: Right, so now time to look at the sample
- 5 transactions in this case. I promised I would get
- 6 there, sir.
- 7 I want to start by saying something about their
- 8 role, particularly in light of some of the observations
- 9 the Tribunal made earlier.
- 10 It is important to emphasise that this is not a case
- 11 about copyright infringement. This is not a claim by
- 12 Microsoft alleging copyright infringement against
- 13 ValueLicensing. The details of any particular
- 14 transaction are, in that regard, irrelevant. It doesn't
- 15 matter if, say, transaction 2 -- I'm just making that
- 16 one up -- involved a degree of copyright infringement
- for some reason.
- 18 What matters and the purposes the sample
- 19 transactions serve are two-fold.
- One, they're obviously rather important context.
- 21 They show what the counterfactual market is that we
- 22 say --
- 23 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, why doesn't copyright infringement
- 24 matter?
- 25 MR LAVY: Because let's say there was -- ValueLicensing has

- loads of transactions in its history and in the
- 2 counterfactual it would have had more, necessarily,
- 3 because that's the basis of the case that but for
- 4 Microsoft's infringement of competition law there would
- 5 have been more transactions. It would have bought more
- 6 licences; it would have sold more licences.
- 7 Now, let's say in one of those transactions
- 8 something went wrong and, therefore, for one of those
- 9 transactions in the real world --
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: That's looking at an extreme example.
- 11 Let's say that you're a serial copyright infringer,
- maybe by authorising or colluding with people who are
- 13 selling the software or something, that may well be
- 14 relevant to the competition claim. You're engaging in
- infringing acts, so I'm just not sure why copyright
- infringement isn't relevant.
- 17 MR LAVY: For a case like that, though -- let's just take
- 18 that -- that would have to be pleaded and then we would
- 19 have a factual trial about it.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, we're in a slightly odd -- yes, yes.
- 21 Keeps being told it's going to be pleaded, but it hasn't
- been, which does remind me -- sorry to interject -- but
- 23 we would quite like to see the pleadings in the
- 24 copyright case because reference has frequently been
- 25 made to them.

- 1 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Probably a dozen times by now, but we still
- 3 don't have a clue what that case is about. Just for
- 4 background.
- 5 MR LAVY: Would it help if I showed you now? Because we're
- doing reasonably well for time.
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: The copyright action?
- 8 MR LAVY: Oh, sorry -- we don't have them.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Not now. But if you let us have them over
- 10 the next few days.
- 11 MR LAVY: Yes. But of course --
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, I interrupted. An interjection, but
- 13 we were on the point: why does copyright infringement
- 14 not matter?
- 15 MR LAVY: I should say, obviously, the PI trial is in these
- 16 proceedings and it shouldn't be used as a sort of
- 17 collateral attempt to have a trial in the other
- 18 proceedings.
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: No, no, I appreciate that.
- 20 MR LAVY: But the reason it doesn't matter, take -- you have
- one transaction which went wrong, I suppose one might
- then ask: okay, well, is that a systemic issue?
- 23 And if it is a systemic issue, one might then have
- 24 to ask: what does that do to the size of the lawful
- 25 market in the counterfactual?

- I can quite see that.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Right. So you're just saying it's not the
- 3 pleaded case?
- 4 MR LAVY: Yes, exactly.
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: Right.
- 6 MR LAVY: I'm saying it in the context of this PI trial,
- 7 where the sample transactions as such aren't pleaded at
- 8 all, they're here to give us context. They're a vehicle
- 9 for showing you -- obviously, it's very important to
- 10 know what software VL was reselling, what, sort of in
- 11 broad terms, what sort of resale activity it was engaged
- in and so on. Critically, they are about showing
- 13 Microsoft's licensing terms and structure, because you
- 14 have to understand how things were licensed, at least to
- some degree.
- 16 The second rather more focused purpose they serve is
- 17 to identify the licence splitting that VL says is lawful
- and Microsoft says is unlawful. For that there's really
- 19 only one question, in my submission, which is: are we
- 20 dealing with multiple copies or are we dealing with
- 21 something different? And that's an analysis --
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: But they're also there to deal with the
- 23 question of whether you required the vendors to delete
- the original software.
- 25 MR LAVY: Well, that's a factual question, which doesn't

- fall in the scope of this preliminary issues trial. So
- 2 we have evidence on that.
- 3 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Could I just ask just on that -- and
- 4 I don't want to take you out of your way, but if you go
- 5 to Microsoft's pleadings -- so bundle C, tab 3,
- 6 page 53 -- I just want to understand how -- maybe this
- 7 doesn't follow at all, this preliminary issue, but it
- 8 would be nice to understand. At bundle C, tab 3,
- page 53, they have pleaded, at paragraph 23(c)(6).
- 10 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 11 MR LYKIARDOUPOLOUS: And they say there -- they plead there
- that the claimant has never been entitled to rely upon
- 13 exhaustion unless it can prove the conditions for
- 14 exhaustion, including that the first acquirer has
- 15 ensured that any copies still in his hand is deleted or
- 16 rendered unusable.
- 17 Now, we discussed earlier on that if that hasn't
- happened that may amount to infringement by the first
- 19 acquirer, but may not amount, potentially, to
- 20 infringement, say, by the claimant if exhaustion has
- 21 taken place. And we had that debate.
- 22 What do you say about -- or are you going to come on
- 23 to this? Is this something we have to resolve,
- 24 23(c)(6) in your case?
- 25 MR LAVY: In my submission, no, because there is a whole

- 1 debate about the scope of the preliminary issue trial.
- 2 It started off with potential for a rather large number
- 3 of issues and we have whittled it down to two
- 4 preliminary issues. In my submission, those two
- 5 preliminary issues arise out of two specific paragraphs,
- 6 actually, of this pleading, which don't include that
- 7 one.
- Just so that I'm not wasting --
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: On Mr Hobbs' case, this is central to the
- 10 question of exhaustion. Mr Hobbs is nodding. This is
- 11 absolutely central to his exhaustion case, so you
- 12 haven't -- you haven't -- may or may not have done this
- or you haven't shown that you have done it.
- 14 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: And so it's central to the preliminary issues
- 16 that we have to decide.
- 17 MR LAVY: Well, the preliminary issues are not the entirety
- of the exhaustion case. The preliminary issues were two
- 19 specifics -- very important, but two sub-aspects of
- 20 exhaustion.
- One is whether you can split volume licences, and
- 22 the other one is whether you can have exhaustion at
- 23 all --
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: You have even dealt with this in your
- evidence, so you can't say this wasn't part of the

- 1 proceedings.
- 2 MR HOBBS: Absolutely.
- 3 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Your evidence, I think the chairman is
- 4 referring to the statement of Mr Horley, where he says
- 5 that -- I'm sure you will come to it. But, on the
- 6 evidence, he says that the claimant seeks to ascertain
- 7 and ensure that copies have been rendered unusable. So
- 8 that's been traversed.
- 9 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Have you put in correspondence in relation to
- 11 that?
- 12 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Correspondence relating to that?
- 13 MR LAVY: It's part of the proceedings and insofar as it's
- 14 there and that evidence says what it says. But we
- 15 accept, on our side of the court, parking the exact
- 16 analysis of what the consequences are, that our business
- 17 model required the vendors of second-hand licences to
- delete their copies. It's not in dispute that as
- 19 a matter of legal principle that has to happen.
- 20 Now --
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Well, that has to happen. But whether you
- 22 are required to ensure it does happen is a separate
- 23 question.
- 24 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: The issue is whether this preliminary
- issue is looking generally as to whether exhaustion

- 1 applies, if you like, to everyone down the chain or
- 2 whether we're looking at whether exhaustion applies to
- 3 what the claimant has done, whether the claimant can
- 4 rely on exhaustion. Or is that wrong? Are we not
- 5 looking? Because as I read the preliminary issue, it's
- 6 not entirely clear to me whether I'm looking at is the
- 7 claimant permitted to do what it's done because rights
- 8 as against it are exhausted or is it looking wider than
- 9 that?
- 10 MR LAVY: Yes. I mean, you have said the prism I'm looking
- 11 through it is actually narrower than that, this
- 12 preliminary issue. It's on the question whether
- 13 exhaustion that might otherwise arise, and resale
- opportunities that might otherwise exist, is defeated
- 15 because VL's business involves splitting volume
- 16 licences. That's how we had understood the preliminary
- issues.
- 18 We can do the archaeology about how we got there,
- 19 but that --
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: Certainly, it's deal with by Mr Hobbs and
- 21 it's deal with in your evidence. So our provisional
- view is we should deal with it. If you want to stop us
- dealing with it you are going to have to show us why.
- 24 MR LAVY: Okay. Could we possibly park the point and I will
- give it some thought over lunch?

- MR HOBBS: Do you mind, for the transcript, if I just say at
- 2 this juncture that you have the bundle open, which is
- 3 bundle C? It may or may not have blipped on your radar
- 4 screen that behind tab 12 there is a whole series of
- 5 admissions supported by a statement of truth that apply
- 6 in relation to the first preliminary issue and also the
- 7 second. There is a whole series of them and they are in
- 8 this case, the admissions.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: That paragraph that we were just looking at
- in the pleadings, at (c)(3), that proposition comes from
- 11 UsedSoft 2, does it not; it doesn't come from the CJEU?
- 12 MR LAVY: The 123(c)(6) is Mr Hobbs' pleading.
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. The requirement to prove conditions for
- 14 exhaustion and including the first acquirer has ensured
- 15 that copy still in his hand was deleted or rendered
- 16 unusable, I understand that's from the German case; it's
- 17 not from UsedSoft.
- 18 MR HOBBS: It's from UsedSoft, and Mr Riordan is just
- 19 telling me what the paragraphs are: it's 70 something,
- isn't it? There's two of them. It's in UsedSoft.
- 21 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: The chairman was asking about the
- 22 requirement to prove.
- 23 THE CHAIRMAN: We know it has to be deleted, and we
- 24 discussed the consequences of that, maybe the original
- 25 acquirer is infringing, but the Court of Justice didn't

- 1 say there was any particular obligation. The
- 2 Court of Justice -- sorry, this is a question -- my
- 3 recollection is didn't say there was any obligation on
- 4 the vendor to make sure those copies were deleted.
- 5 MR LAVY: The CJEU decision I think is silent on the point.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: That's my understanding.
- 7 MR LAVY: I haven't checked it through that prism, but
- 8 I think that's the answer.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: But I think this is something that we would
- 10 like to determine on this.
- 11 MR LAVY: Just to be very clear as to precisely what you
- 12 would like to determine, is it that the question of
- 13 principle as to whether as a matter of law it was for
- 14 the vendor or someone else to be sure copies are
- deleted, or is it a question of fact as to --
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: Both; both, so if the vendor is required we
- then need to look at your evidence as to what you did.
- 18 If the vendor is not required then it's just a question
- 19 of law and then what is the vendor required to do, has
- 20 the vendor done anything. I mean, that's been dealt
- 21 with in your evidence by reference to the particular
- 22 transactions.
- 23 MR LAVY: By reference to the transactions, yes.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: So we're not going to look beyond those
- 25 transactions.

- 1 MR LAVY: Maybe it's a debate for later as to where that
- 2 actually ultimately goes.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: And you may take the view you don't need to
- 4 address it in evidence because it doesn't make any
- 5 difference, but you have addressed it in evidence.
- 6 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr Hobbs is going to make submissions on it,
- 8 I'm sure.
- 9 MR LAVY: I will hear what he says. But I think the
- 10 evidence -- obviously, it's part of the evidence Mr
- 11 (inaudible) put in by way of background to what --
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: -- (overspeaking) specific contracts.
- 13 MR LAVY: Well, it is. But it's not something which has
- 14 received any focus from our side of the court because --
- 15 the factual aspect of it, because the factual aspect of
- it -- I will take it later.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Where do we go next?
- 18 MR LAVY: Sample transactions, yes. Now, the subject of the
- 19 point that the chairman has just made about wanting to
- 20 make findings of fact on the sample transactions.
- 21 When it comes to the principles, we say there's no
- 22 difference between any of the transactions that are
- 23 material to determining the legal issues because it's
- absolutely right that, as the other side have said, in
- 25 some cases ValueLicensing acts as a broker and in some

as a reseller. But we say that's a distinction without
a difference when it comes to the legal analysis. It
doesn't matter either way. We admit, we accept that we
did both things, but we don't say that our role in the
transactions makes any difference to the preliminary
issues.

The convenient place to start, probably, with the sample transactions is paragraph 6 of the statement of fact, which is A, tab 1, page 4.

So this is the agreed position as to Microsoft's Enterprise licence structure, albeit with the caveats that anyone is allowed to look at whatever terms they would like.

The structure here is that the Enterprise customers entered into program agreements which consisted of a suite of documents, and we can see the suite of documents at paragraph 7. There are three agreements, a price sheet and a product selection form. And we see also, at paragraph 7, that a customer places orders for specific products or services under something called an Enterprise enrolment, and that's defined, for what it is worth, at paragraph 11.3 of the statement of fact. But, anyway, that's something that a customer can do once it's entered into an Enterprise agreement.

Given that nothing can be bought until you've

- 1 entered into an Enterprise agreement, we need to look at
- 2 that first.
- 3 And that's -- Enterprise agreement, the one referred
- 4 to in the statement of fact as the example, is B, tab 3,
- 5 page 17.
- 6 So the starting point for my purposes is if you look
- 7 at page --
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: Just help me, where are we going on this?
- 9 Obviously, we have had a look at these --
- 10 MR LAVY: I'm going to show you what the licence grants are,
- 11 which -- so these are the licences which were sold to
- 12 first acquirers.
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, I understand. You say the licence terms
- 14 are neither here nor there. So why are we looking at
- the licence terms?
- 16 MR LAVY: No, the licence terms matter for the question
- of -- or potentially matter for the purpose of working
- out whether we're dealing with a volume licence or not.
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Right.
- 20 MR LAVY: So it's important.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: What's your submission on that? Just so
- I have an idea what the target is.
- 23 MR LAVY: We're dealing with a volume licence because, when
- you look at these terms together, what's clearly
- 25 happening is that there's a sale of separate copies of

- 1 software. That's the point.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: I see, right.
- 3 MR LAVY: And I just need to show you some of the terms to
- 4 make that good.
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
- 6 MR LAVY: Frankly, from my perspective, this is all rather
- of secondary importance, but we have to go through them.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: I understand.
- 9 MR LAVY: The licence grant is at 2A. And what one sees
- 10 there is a grant to download, install and use software
- 11 products, each in the quantity ordered under
- 12 an enrolment. So, to put that the other way round,
- 13 a quantity of products under enrolment can be downloaded
- 14 and installed and used.
- 15 Products, by the way, we don't need to go there.
- 16 It's not defined here, but it's defined in the master
- 17 agreement as:
- "All products identified in the product terms such
- 19 as all software, online services and other web based
- 20 services."
- 21 Stuff including software is all we need to know.
- 22 And this means that under clause 2A there's a right
- 23 to download, install and use as many copies of the
- 24 software as have been ordered under an enrolment. And
- if we now look at 2B on this page, duration of licences.

- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, they're perpetual.
- 2 MR LAVY: That's the thing which makes them perpetual.
- 3 After they're fully paid up. And the initial enrolment
- 4 term is typically three years. That's an agreed fact.
- Now, "Licence" itself is a defined term, capital L,
- and that's, you can see on page 17, is the right to
- 7 download, install, access and use a product.
- 8 So, now, if the Tribunal accepts my submission, one
- 9 has to look at copies not licences, this probably
- doesn't matter very much. But, for what it is worth,
- 11 I note that where clause 2A grants a right to download,
- install and use software products, presumably, what it
- is granting is licences, presumably, because multiple
- 14 products means multiple Licences as a matter of
- 15 definition. But I just say that's very much a footnote
- point from my perspective.
- 17 It's also clear, in my submission, from clause 2B
- that the licence grant isn't a single unitary licence.
- 19 Multiple licences are envisaged because the clause
- 20 refers to licences, plural, becoming perpetual when
- 21 fully paid up and, of course, if one thinks about it,
- that's going to happen at different times for different
- 23 copies under the Enterprise agreement.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, I'm not quite following. A licence
- 25 means right to download, install and use a product?

- 1 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Product means a particular piece of software?
- 3 MR LAVY: Yes, product -- and other things as well.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Other things. But it doesn't assist you. So
- 5 when you say it's multiple licences that could be for
- 6 different products, not necessarily the same product
- 7 multiple times?
- 8 MR LAVY: Yes, it could be either, I agree.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: It's not helping you on which it is?
- 10 MR LAVY: I see. But then, if you look at 2B, you then have
- 11 the licences, plural --
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Could be different, could be --
- 13 MR LAVY: No, that is fair. It's neutral. It's neutral.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Neutral, yes.
- 15 MR LAVY: But, more importantly, if you look at these terms
- 16 through the prism of UsedSoft, if you licence software
- 17 under this agreement you have a right to download,
- install and use as many copies as you've ordered. And
- 19 that's really the key point for me because that's what
- 20 clause 2A says. It doesn't say you can download, use
- and install one copy; it's one copy per qualifying user
- or per qualifying device. And what you will see is that
- some software is licensed per qualifying user and some
- is licensed per qualifying device.
- 25 And so once, then, the 3 years has expired, under

- clause 2B, you have the right to use those copies for an unlimited period in return for payment of a fee designed to enable Microsoft to obtain remuneration corresponding to the economic value of those copies.
- 5 And at that point the distribution right in those copies 6 is exhausted.

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- Now, interestingly, I think this is significant,

 Microsoft doesn't appear to dispute this and we see that
 in its skeleton at paragraph 51. They say there's
 nothing prohibiting or restricting customers from
 transferring the totality of the licences they have
 purchased in the ordered quantities of qualifying users
 and qualifying devices for products, where the
 legislature prescribes conditions, for instance, of
 distribution rights are met.
- And in that paragraph, Microsoft also quotes clause 4C of the Enterprise agreement, which says, in essence, that exhaustion trumps the terms.
 - And, of course, that mirrors the legal position that would subsist in any event, because you can't override -- you can't get out of Article 4(2).
- 22 So that's all I'm taking from the Enterprise 23 agreement.
- A sample enrolment is at tab 4. For present

 purposes, I just note that, on page 23, unsurprisingly

- 1 the Enterprise agreement is incorporated into it and
- 2 there's something called a "product selection form" also
- 3 incorporated into it, which we will look at in a second.
- And under the heading "Term" you see the 36 months.
- 5 So that's the three year term after which licences
- 6 become perpetual.
- 7 Now, the two definitions are needed to understand
- 8 the product selection form, and those are the two
- 9 definitions on page 24, qualified device and qualified
- 10 user. And what you see is the qualified device
- 11 essentially means -- and I'm paraphrasing --
- 12 a workstation, a desktop computer. There are other
- things it can be. But, importantly, a qualified device
- 14 cannot be a server because that's what it says
- 15 expressly.
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: All right. Does not include ...
- 17 (Reads)
- 18 MR LAVY: So, just going back to the conversation we were
- 19 having about staging servers and things, that copy
- 20 wouldn't be a qualified device copy and, therefore, it
- 21 wouldn't be one of the licensed copies that you have
- bought.
- So, if we then look at a qualified user -- sorry,
- a qualified selection form, at the next tab, page 33.
- Now, this is the example referenced in the statement of

- 1 fact. It happens to be transaction 4, but no
- 2 significance turns on that for present purposes.
- 3 I'm really showing you this to show you how the
- 4 thing works.
- 5 So we have step 1. There's an order here for
- 6 22,000-odd qualified devices and 24,000-odd -- slightly
- 7 different number -- qualified users.
- 8 Enterprise product platform is ticked yes. And
- 9 I think that means these are Enterprise products rather
- 10 than additional products, so these are ones you have to
- 11 buy for your entire Enterprise.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, why is the devices different to the
- users?
- 14 MR LAVY: It's different software. So you see that Office
- 15 Professional, for example, is per user. If you do the
- 16 maths you see this works out. And Windows Desktop is
- per device, so they're just licensed on a different
- 18 basis.
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: I see.
- 20 MR LAVY: Because if you look at Windows Desktop you add
- 21 22,388 and 79, you get to 22,467.
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Fine, fine, spare me the details.
- 23 MR LAVY: I'm very pleased because I haven't done the
- 24 calculations for them all.
- So, pausing there, pursuant to the enrolment

associated with this product selection form, the fact that you have quantities of 22,000-odd copies of these things, in the real world this can only sensibly mean the customer is entitled to download, install and use 22,000-odd copies of Office and 22,000-odd copies of Windows. Those are the qualifying devices. Those are the qualifying users.

And after three years and payment of the appropriate fee, then what happens is the licensee has 22,000-odd fully paid up perpetual licences and it has 22,000-odd exhausted copies of software. That really is the only way one can sensibly look at this. And it doesn't matter, from a contractual perspective, that there's only one transaction here and one contract.

What matters is that there's a right to download, install and use 22,000 copies of Office and 22,000 copies of Windows. And, now, that right is, as a matter of contractual definition, a Licence, capital L. But, more importantly, as a matter of law, it's a licence, small L, in respect of each of those copies. And once those licences are perpetual, in my submission, the distribution right in each copy is exhausted. That's why at that stage Microsoft has no further economic interest in those 22,000 copies and they can be resold.

- 1 it's 22,000 notional copies because no one is suggesting
- 2 taking 22,000 hard disks out of computers and giving
- 3 them to someone else. What we're talking about --
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: We have the point.
- 5 MR LAVY: You have, yes.
- 6 So then this really is back to the deletion issue.
- 7 If the Microsoft customer wants to sell some -- well, if
- 8 a Microsoft -- it's not really -- it's broader than
- 9 that -- wants to sell some, but not all their copies,
- 10 now then a question may arise as to whether they can do
- 11 that without breaching their obligation to license
- 12 everyone in their organisation, which is a point my
- 13 learned friends make.
- Now, the answer to that is going to be: it depends.
- 15 It's going to be very fact specific because if, for
- 16 example, you have an organisation that reduces in size
- and has a smaller workforce, then it's not going to need
- the licences it's getting rid of and it can resell its
- 19 excess licences without infringing -- without breaching
- 20 the contractual obligation it has with Microsoft to
- ensure that everyone is licensed.
- 22 But let's now consider the situation where
- 23 a Microsoft customer seeks to sell a subset of its
- 24 licences in circumstances which would leave it with
- 25 a shortfall. So it's now in a position where, because

- 1 it's sold some of its licences, it's in breach of its
- obligations, potentially, to Microsoft.
- 3 Well, the answer is that Microsoft may have a cause
- of action in breach of contract against that customer,
- 5 unless the customer buys more licences. But it doesn't
- 6 in my submission --
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: We're drifting off. Those aren't the facts
- 8 of these cases, are they?
- 9 MR LAVY: Well, the answer is: they may be in the
- 10 counterfactual, because the point my learned friends
- 11 make is you can't sell some, but not all of your
- 12 licences, because then you will be in breach --
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. But aren't there specific examples? Do
- 14 we have an example where you sold some licences, but not
- 15 all of them?
- 16 MR LAVY: Yes, but not in circumstances where there's
- 17 evidence to suggest that's a breach. And of course
- 18 we're dealing with serious organisations here, and it's
- 19 not -- these Enterprise customers, who are selling
- 20 licences, the Rabobanks, ABN AMRO, these are serious
- 21 businesses who usually might take their obligations
- 22 seriously. In my submission, one can't assume that they
- 23 would go around breaching their contractual obligations
- to Microsoft.
- 25 But, if one then looks at, say, at a contrary

- 1 example, say -- Carillion is the example I have used.
- 2 Now, that -- I actually used this as the example because
- 3 it involved Office and Windows, both products.
- 4 The easiest place to pick that up is if we look at
- 5 the statement of facts, at paragraph 68, what you can
- 6 see is that they entered into a series of enrolments,
- 7 paragraph 68. And then there's -- at paragraph 71, it
- 8 says that Carillion entered into administration with PwC
- 9 acting as administrators. In fact that's, I'm afraid,
- 10 not quite right. It went into insolvent liquidation.
- 11 And that's apparent if you look at paragraph 72 in the
- box, you can see from the name it's a matter of public
- 13 record anyway. So apologies for that; that's wrong in
- 14 the statement of facts.
- But, in any event, we see that it's common ground
- 16 that as at 20 June 2018 Carillion was licensed for at
- 17 least the quantities listed in the table there. And
- 18 PwC, as insolvency practitioners, entered into
- 19 a brokerage agreement with ValueLicensing in respect of
- 20 them. In this particular example, after its
- 21 liquidation, we can assume that Carillion didn't need
- its licences, have any more copies. Understandably, PwC
- 23 wants to try to get something from the assets. But we
- have seen how this would all work. I won't take you to
- 25 it, but there's a product selection form, as you can

imagine, which lists the licences. The numbers don't

quite add up because the product selection form -
I think we have this from 2014, but this is an agreed -
at paragraph 73, we have an agreed number of licences

anyway, so it doesn't really matter that we haven't

traced it through, in my submission, the paperwork.

But then what we can see, at paragraph 80 of the statement of facts, is that VL brokered a series of sales as set out in schedule 3. That is at tab 4. What we can see here is a total list of what ValueLicensing sold. They weren't all sold in a single batch. They were sold to a variety of businesses and public sector organisations, and you get a sense of that if you look over the page, at 63. So taking Office Professional, for example, 3,000-odd were sold to a company called Black Belt, 540 to DHL, 24 to (inaudible) and so on.

So these copies are sold in batches, smaller than the Carillion enrolments. There's a dispute of fact about that. They were also not sold with copies of Windows. You can see that just from the numbers.

Again, no dispute of fact about that.

So what is going on is splitting, in both senses, that are relevant today. We say: so what? Because every individual copy is exhausted.

25 And that really is the long and the short of it, in

- 1 my submission.
- Now, I have virtually finished --
- 3 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Before the short adjournment, I have one
- 4 question which I would like you to think about over the
- 5 short adjournment. It goes back to this point we
- 6 discussed earlier about paragraph 23(c)(6) of
- 7 the defence.
- 8 MR LAVY: Yes.

9

claimant, are required to show conditions have been met
and (b) whether it matters to what we have to decide

MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: And whether or not (a) you, as the

- 12 whether the conditions have been met. And as part of
- that you mentioned that in some of these transactions
- the software is rendered unusable and, as far as I could
- see, that was in your evidence. But when you go to some
- of the underlying letters, and indeed it's also in this
- agreed statement of facts, there's a difference between
- 18 transactions where sometimes it says the software has
- 19 been rendered unusable and sometimes it says it's no
- 20 longer used. Of course, that is a difference. And I
- 21 want just to understand that if in fact it matters, we
- 22 have to look into what the defendant says is important
- as to whether or not you have shown that the first
- acquirer has rendered unusable, how you do that and
- whether you do that and, indeed, whether it matters.

- 1 I just need to understand.
- 2 MR LAVY: No, those are all fair questions.
- 3 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Particularly on the evidence that you
- 4 have put in. I think we need to understand how that
- fits together. It may not matter on your case. I don't
- 6 know, you may say: none of that matters. I don't have
- 7 to show that and, indeed, if I did, that doesn't affect
- 8 me.
- 9 That may be your position. It may be. That's
- 10 certainly not Mr Hobbs' position, and so we just need to
- 11 understand how it fits together.
- 12 MR LAVY: That's clear, thank you.
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Very good.
- 14 (1.00 pm)
- 15 (The luncheon adjournment)
- 16 (2.00 pm)
- 17 MR LAVY: Good afternoon. So just to deal briefly with the
- deletion issue that was raised before lunch. I do need
- 19 to preface this by recording ValueLicensing's position,
- 20 the deletion issue is out of scope and that the purpose
- of this PI was to decide the legal question about
- 22 splitting, then of course NPWs. And that's important
- 23 because ValueLicensing's selection of the sample
- 24 transactions and preparation of evidence was on that
- 25 basis. And also it's worth -- we have checked

- 1 Microsoft's skeleton over lunchtime and, so far as we
- 2 can see, there isn't actually even a factual case made
- 3 out in the skeleton that ValueLicensing failed to delete
- 4 in respect of any of the transactions. But, with that
- 5 caveat, a substantive answer to the points that were
- 6 raised by the Tribunal.
- 7 The starting point is paragraph 78 of UsedSoft,
- 8 because that sets out the legal position, so that's
- 9 authorities bundle 2, tab 28, page 766.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, it's out of scope. Can you just take
- 11 us to the preliminary issues order and explain why it's
- 12 out of scope?
- 13 MR LAVY: In a sense, the most convenient place to look at
- 14 it is actually my learned friend's skeleton, at
- paragraph 8.
- 16 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: You may also want to go to 36.4 as well
- of their skeleton, just so I understand.
- 18 MR LAVY: Yes, well, that point I can deal with quite
- 19 quickly because the point there is being made, as
- 20 I understand it, is if you sell multiple licences --
- 21 sorry, if you're reselling part, some, a subset of your
- 22 copies of software, then necessarily you still have
- copies yourself.
- 24 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Right.
- 25 MR LAVY: I think that's what they're saying. And we agree,

- 1 we just say it doesn't matter. As a matter of fact
- 2 there's no dispute there.
- 3 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Sorry, you're going to go to paragraph?
- 4 MR LAVY: Paragraph 8, yes, the table.
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: We're really interested in what the order
- 6 was, rather than what Mr Hobbs' interpretation --
- 7 Mr Hobbs can explain his interpretation in due course.
- 8 MR LAVY: Yes, so the order is at --
- 9 MR HOBBS: G, tab 19.
- 10 MR LAVY: Thanks. G, tab 19. For our purposes it's
- 11 paragraph 1A.
- 12 MR HOBBS: And 2.
- 13 MR LAVY: Hang on a second, Mr Hobbs.
- 14 Preliminary issue itself is at 1 and my learned
- 15 friends highlight, in their skeleton, the words "in the
- 16 circumstances of this case" and that's obviously right
- because it's not an entirely abstract, floating issue.
- 18 It's linked to Microsoft's licences in this case.
- 19 And then paragraph 2, Mr Hobbs wants me to go to,
- 20 which deals with the statement of facts and, of course,
- just under (ii) on issue 1A are the words:
- 22 "By reference to a sample of five transactions
- 23 entered into by or with the claimant and their
- 24 associated specific contractual terms on the basis of
- which the above points of law are to be determined."

- 1 And that's really my point. The preliminary issues
- 2 trial is for determining points of law, not points of
- 3 fact.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: I have made clear that was not the case
- 5 during the directions hearings, when this was initially
- 6 ordered. So it wasn't going to be a pure point of law;
- 7 it was going to be in the context of particular facts.
- 8 MR LAVY: In the context of particular facts, absolutely.
- 9 The question really is then: what facts are the
- important ones?
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: I'm not sure that really helps because
- it's -- one can look at your letters and say: as matter
- 13 of law; do those letters mean that rights are exhausted?
- 14 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Can I ask: I didn't quite understand
- 15 what you mean by that, in the sense that assume for
- 16 a moment against -- well, just assume for a moment that
- 17 we cannot say or the Tribunal cannot say on the evidence
- that the first acquirer rendered their copies unusable.
- 19 Let's assume that. Does that matter to the point of
- 20 law? Because that's then the factual matrix that we're
- looking at, and do you say that matters or doesn't
- 22 matter?
- 23 MR LAVY: It obviously matters -- if you were to determine
- 24 that needed to be shown in order for exhaustion to have
- 25 happened, just park whether that's right. But, if you

- were to determine that, then it would follow that on
- 2 that view of the world there would be no exhaustion,
- 3 unless that had happened. But -- and obviously that is
- 4 relevant to the issue of exhaustion.
- 5 I do say that's not actually in the scope of the
- 6 specific issue we're looking at today.
- 7 I will give you a substantive answer to that very
- 8 point. But that's not what this preliminary issue is
- 9 about.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: And the reason you say that is? Point to the
- words that you say means it is excluded.
- 12 MR LAVY: Yes:
- "Does the distribution right or reproduction right
- 14 enjoyed by the owner of the copyright and computer
- 15 program permit or prevent subdivision and resale without
- 16 the consent of the rightholder, of the user right,
- 17 et cetera."
- 18 The focus of this preliminary issue is subdivision
- of resale.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: Right.
- 21 MR LAVY: Which arises out of -- I think it's 23(c)(2) of
- the pleadings on my learned friends' side. Apparently
- 23 it's 23(c)(3) of the pleadings. But it was a very
- 24 specific pleaded issue that we were looking at, as we
- 25 had understood it. And the reason why that issue is

- an important one to be looking at as a preliminary issue
- 2 is that was one where if there was no right to split
- 3 a multivolume licence, then there was no
- 4 counterfactual --
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: But the circumstances, whether that -- it's
- 6 in the circumstance of the case and the circumstance --
- 7 let's assume it's an obligation on you, fair and square,
- 8 to use particular words to the person you're acquiring
- 9 from, that is an element that is relevant in answering
- 10 this question because it's on those facts. It's not --
- 11 it may not have been the central focus of the issue, but
- it doesn't fall outside the issue.
- 13 MR LAVY: Well, I suppose it does. But let's assume -- in
- 14 the circumstances of this case, let's assume
- 15 the Tribunal -- or let it decide that subdivision resale
- is fine, but there has to be deletion of the first
- acquirer's copy and X is responsible for ensuring that.
- 18 I will actually deal with the substance of that point in
- a moment.
- 20 Then that's -- if that is a conclusion a tribunal
- 21 reaches, then that wouldn't be dispositive of the
- 22 proceedings, because then the question at trial will be:
- in the counterfactual scenario, which is where this
- 24 matters, because all this arises out of the defence.
- 25 It's paragraph 5C of my learned friend's defence, which

- 1 is there wasn't a lawful resale market in which
- 2 ValueLicensing could have and would on the
- 3 counterfactual have engaged. That's what this case is
- 4 about. Then we would have to answer the quantum
- 5 question: what is the size and value of the market?
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: Aren't we ultimately interested in whether
- 7 there was infringement of copyright --
- 8 MR LAVY: No.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: -- and whether the rights are exhausted?
- 10 MR LAVY: Sir, no.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: The former following the latter?
- 12 MR LAVY: No. Can I show you the defence in this? Because
- this is obviously quite an important point.
- 14 If we look at the pleadings bundle, which is bundle
- 15 C ... I have temporarily lost my bundle C. Found it.
- 16 Tab 3, which is the re-amended defence, the starting
- 17 point -- and one does have to anchor it to this -- is
- paragraph 5.2, and it's the bit that came in my
- 19 amendment:
- 20 "Further and in any event the acts complained
- 21 of ..."
- 22 That's the competition alleged infringement:
- "... cannot have been the cause of any relevant loss
- or damage to the claimant insofar as it would not have
- 25 been lawful for the claimant to resell or other

- distribute the relevant software products and/or
- licences by reason of the facts and matters set out in
- 3 paragraphs 23A to C."
- 4 So the structure of this is we're talking about
- 5 a counterfactual scenario. We're talking about what
- 6 would have happened in the market that would have
- 7 subsisted had there been no -- what we say was
- 8 infringement of competition law. And we say that market
- 9 would have been bigger. ValueLicensing would have been
- 10 able to buy and resell more second-hand licences of
- 11 Microsoft software.
- 12 So that's what this point goes to.
- 13 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: But does that not carry with it,
- 14 therefore -- forgetting for a moment whether you say
- 15 this issue of rendering unusable should or should not be
- 16 properly within the scope of the order, just in relation
- 17 to the substance of it.
- 18 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 19 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Mr Hobbs has pleaded that if it has --
- 20 there's requirement on the claimant to prove that the
- 21 first acquirer assured unusability. That's what he said
- in 23(c)(6). If that's wrong, then why does it matter?
- Because the focus of 5.2 is whether or not it's lawful
- for you, not lawful for anybody else.
- 25 MR LAVY: Yes. The answer is it may not matter. Again, one

- 1 has to look at the wider structure of my learned
- friend's plea. It's interesting. It's not really
- 3 a positive plea. What they say is -- at 5.2, they say
- 4 you have to comply with UsedSoft. That's a summary.
- 5 Then what they do at 23A is say: and these are all
- 6 the things you would have to do to ensure a lawful
- 7 market.
- 8 Again, we can debate that. But where does any of it
- 9 go? At most, it goes to the size of the market.
- Now, what I mean by that is --
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: Why does it go to the size of the market? It
- may go to the size of the market. I can see why that
- 13 would be. But it also goes to whether or not Microsoft
- was entitled to take what may or may not be actions
- which would otherwise be anti-competitive in
- 16 circumstances where they're protecting their
- intellectual property rights.
- 18 MR LAVY: The objective justification.
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Objective justification, yes.
- 20 MR LAVY: But then they would only be able to go -- let's
- 21 take that example. They would only be able to go
- 22 against a subset of the market, sales in which, on that
- 23 hypothesis, the first acquirer hadn't deleted their
- copies.
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: That obviously could be subject to argument.

- 1 If you're infringing or somebody is infringing copyright
- 2 60 per cent of the time, it doesn't mean that you can't
- 3 take steps to stop this happening in the market. That
- 4 would be the subject of argument.
- 5 MR LAVY: Sure. But there's no pleaded factual case of that
- 6 nature. One can quite see that if there had been
- 7 a positive, pleaded factual case that ValueLicensing was
- 8 in fact persistently, as a matter of its business
- 9 practice, doing -- acting unlawfully in that sort of way
- 10 by failing to ensure the copies were deleted, if that's
- 11 an obligation on VL -- I will come back to that -- then
- 12 fine. Or, more broadly, if there was a pleaded case
- 13 that the market as a whole was rife with this sort of
- thing going on, fine. But that's not the pleaded case.
- 15 All that the pleading says is: well, you have to
- make sure that all these things are complied with.
- And that's not enough, in my submission, to bring in
- 18 these sorts of issues.
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Your submission is whether or not you've
- 20 complied with them isn't relevant to
- 21 preliminary issue 1.
- 22 MR LAVY: I do. But, in fact, I'm just scotching this
- 23 particular issue. If one actually reads UsedSoft at
- 24 paragraph 78, in my submission it's clear that the
- 25 consequences of non-deletion don't affect the market at

- 1 all. And the consequences of non-deletion are -- this
- 2 is the conversation we were having earlier -- are that
- 3 the vendor is infringing copyright. And we won't go to
- 4 it because of the time, but if you could look at
- 5 paragraph 78, in my submission it says so in terms.
- And, therefore, in the context of this case it doesn't
- 7 affect the question of whether there was a lawful market
- 8 in the used copies. That there was a lawful market it
- 9 may be that in some cases Microsoft has rights of action
- of copyright infringement against certain companies who
- 11 haven't been deleting. But that's a different matter so
- 12 that's not what this case is about.
- 13 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: So it doesn't affect whether it's lawful
- for the claimant to resell --
- 15 MR LAVY: Correct.
- 16 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: I understand.
- 17 MR LAVY: That's my point on that. And I say it's not for
- us, actually, to establish deletion; what we have to
- 19 establish is that we -- in the counterfactual case would
- 20 have. But I'm just going to say that the copies we had
- 21 were exhausted copies and that's as far as we have to
- go. And for that substantive reason I say, actually,
- this deletion point is a bit of a red herring. But
- 24 that's, I think, all I probably should sensibly say at
- 25 this stage.

- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: Remind me, supporting the analysis that you
- 2 look at the point of sale you rely on the directive
- 3 itself?
- 4 MR LAVY: I rely -- sorry, in support of the analysis --
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: That the rights are exhausted at the --
- 6 MR LAVY: At the point of first sale. I rely on UsedSoft
- 7 and Ranks and the doctrine of exhaustion more generally;
- 8 that what UsedSoft decides is once you have a first sale
- 9 the rights in that copy are exhausted and they can't
- 10 retrospectively unexhaust themselves.
- 11 That's my point on that.
- 12 So there was only one more point I wanted to make on
- preliminary issue 1. And I'm sorry, we have gone
- 14 slightly round the houses on it. But the good news is
- 15 it is the longer issue of the two, though I think I have
- 16 picked up everything I needed to in my learned friend's
- skeleton, except one point, and that's what they say at
- paragraph 38.2, penultimate sentence:
- 19 "A single copy of the software is downloaded by the
- 20 licensee by Microsoft which can then be installed on all
- 21 qualifying devices."
- Now, we have actually had the discussion about
- 23 whether that matters or not, and in my submission it
- doesn't matter. So I'm not going to go over that again.
- 25 But I just wanted to flag that factual point, that's set

- 1 out there in 38.2, isn't, in my submission, what the
- 2 evidence actually says. The evidence is rather woollier
- 3 than that.
- 4 The relevant evidence, so far as we can see, is
- 5 Mr Clarke's evidence, which I don't propose to go to,
- 6 but it's paragraph 8 of Mr Clarke at D2, tab 4, page 35.
- 7 What he says is: a single link was provided to the
- 8 customer for downloading the product it ordered. That
- 9 doesn't mean you have to download it once and put it on
- 10 a server. That may be the distribution mechanism, but
- 11 the evidence --
- 12 (overspeaking)
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: (overspeaking) simply uses something.
- 14 MR LAVY: Exactly, the evidence doesn't tell us one way or
- 15 the other. So I won't repeat my submission that it
- doesn't matter anyway, because we had that debate
- 17 earlier.
- 18 So, subject to any questions from the Tribunal, that
- 19 was all I wanted to say at this stage on PI 1.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: Let's move to PI 2, then.
- 21 MR LAVY: This -- luckily I think there are no scope issues
- around this. It can be boiled down to the question: do
- Office and Windows fall outside of the scope of the
- 24 Software Directive exhaustion regime? Because they have
- 25 non-program works. That's the exact question.

- 1 Now, it's common ground that they do contain
- 2 non-program works. There's a dispute as to an extent.
- 3 I will have to come on to that. But they do contain
- 4 non-program works and they fall broadly into two
- 5 categories.
- 6 There are things like the user interface, bits that
- 7 are essential for the software to be used at all. And
- 8 then there are things that aren't essential, in the
- 9 sense that they're not necessarily for the correct
- 10 functioning of the software, but you can't avoid
- 11 downloading them because Microsoft packages them in.
- 12 And so, as the Tribunal will have seen from our
- 13 skeleton, VL accepts that there are -- that these works
- 14 exist and they are substantial, in the sense of
- 15 non-trivial and copyright subsists in them or at least
- 16 as a matter of principle. And my submissions today
- 17 proceed on that basis.
- 18 We don't accept that copyright subsists in
- 19 absolutely everything that Microsoft relies on because
- 20 we say, actually, there isn't adequate evidence to make
- 21 that sort of finding.
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: It's not really relevant.
- 23 MR LAVY: It's not really relevant. It really doesn't
- 24 matter for the preliminary issue.
- 25 As with the first one, I will start by giving you

the sort of four corners of the submission and then
I will go into some detail where I need to.

The starting point is that the regimes under the Software Directive and the InfoSoc Directive are incompatible when it comes to exhaustion. And Tom Kabinet held that for works falling under the InfoSoc Directive making available for download from a website constitutes communication to the public and not a distribution. And it follows that there's no exhaustion for intangible copies under the InfoSoc Directive or, being probably more accurate about it, for works that fall under the InfoSoc Directive downloads aren't copies at all; they're communications of the work to the public.

And in consequence, where a single work consists in part of computer program elements and in part of non-program elements, a single exhaustion regime, either under Software Directive or under the InfoSoc Directive, has to prevail and govern the provision for the entirety of the work, in the sense that resale of an intangible copy of the work can't both be permitted and not permitted at the same time. And that's the problem.

In my submission, the question of which of the two regimes prevails in those circumstances is determined by looking at the work as a whole and asking how in

1 substance it's properly to be characterised.

1.3

So, if looked at as a whole, the working substance is a computer program, albeit one which has non-program work elements attached to it and all the rest of it, then the exhaustion regime and the Software Directive applies and, after a first sale, the whole of that work can be resold, including its non-program elements. But, if looked at as a whole, the work is not aptly to be characterised as a computer program, then the Information Society Directive applies and there's no exhaustion of the whole on first sale.

And what I am going to seek to do over the next hour or so is show that's actually the only approach that works. It's the only approach that makes the Software Directive regime workable in practice, it's the only one that makes economic sense, and it's the only one that's consistent with the broader authorities as to how you deal with these things.

Now, when one applies that test to Office and
Windows -- they are both computer programs. Yes, they
incorporate all sorts of non-program elements and no
doubt a lot of investment went into those non-program
elements. A lot of investment goes into all aspects of
Microsoft software, I'm sure.

But the program elements -- and this is the

- 1 important point -- are subsidiary -- sorry, the
- 2 non-program elements are subsidiary to the program
- 3 elements from a practical and economic perspective. And
- 4 to put it in sort of slightly sort of vernacular terms,
- 5 you don't buy Windows because you want some nice icons
- 6 to appear on your desktop; you buy it because you need
- 7 an operating system. And you don't buy Office because
- 8 you like its clip art and its ribbon, you buy Office
- 9 because you want a word processor, a spreadsheet and so
- 10 on. In each case --
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: I understand that submission, but where is
- 12 the evidence that supports that?
- 13 MR LAVY: Well, on the question of what people are buying,
- 14 we do have evidence that I am going to come to. Horley
- 15 gives some evidence on it. Golev gives some evidence on
- 16 it.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: But you haven't told us what the programs --
- even in the evidence -- told us what the programs do.
- 19 MR LAVY: No.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: Obviously, they're very well known programs.
- 21 I appreciate that. But I'm just a little nervous about
- 22 taking judicial notice of the extent to which the
- operating parts of the program dominate over the
- 24 aesthetic parts of the program, if I can put it that
- 25 way. It's an inaccurate description, but you get my

- 1 point?
- 2 MR LAVY: Yes. This morning, what the Tribunal said is
- 3 there should be an agreed statement on that, exactly
- 4 that.
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 6 MR LAVY: That is obviously something we will address, but
- 7 haven't yet.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, all right. So that will be the source
- 9 for our -- and now, of course, it will be bitterly
- 10 disputed.
- 11 Hopefully not.
- 12 MR LAVY: Hopefully not. But, as a result, I say Windows
- and Office do fall under the Software Directive
- exhaustion regime, especially for software. And they
- 15 are subject to exhaustion on first sale regardless of
- whether tangible or intangible copies.
- Now, Microsoft's case, as I understand it, is if the
- software contains non-program works, which it does,
- 19 there can be no exhaustion of intangible copies, full
- 20 stop.
- 21 But, if that's right, the decision in UsedSoft has
- very limited application indeed because the vast
- 23 majority of software contains some non-program works.
- 24 Most modern software has a GUI. But, even forgetting
- 25 that, you have error messages, you have --

- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: An error message isn't necessarily
- 2 a copyright work.
- 3 MR LAVY: No. Although my learned friends claim error
- 4 messages as one of their categories --
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: They may do, but it's not necessary.
- 6 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Can I ask you, just so I understand your
- 7 case in relation to looking at the work as a whole --
- 8 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 9 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: -- what test do you say we should be
- 10 applying on that? Obviously, you have referred to the
- 11 Court of Justice, both in Nintendo and in the eBook case
- 12 about reference to -- especially eBook -- about
- incidental.
- 14 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 15 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Are you relying on that as the test?
- 16 MR LAVY: I am. And I'm going to come on to that in some
- 17 detail.
- 18 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Right.
- 19 MR LAVY: But, yes, the test is the test in Tom Kabinet.
- 20 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Okay. The other thing -- just when you
- 21 come to it, not now. I don't want to take you out of
- 22 your way. I would also quite like you to address it.
- Both of you, to a certain extent, have been addressing
- 24 this in relation to the works and asking us -- we're
- 25 going to come on to explain how we do it -- how the work

- 1 is to be characterised. When we were looking at issue 1
- and we were looking at UsedSoft, we were looking at the
- 3 Court of Justice, which was looking at the downloading
- 4 of the copy and the user licence agreement forming
- 5 an indivisible whole and was looking at it almost like
- 6 the transaction, if I can put it that way, and
- 7 considering: well, what has been sold?
- 8 That's not so much looking at the work as what does
- 9 exhaustion bite on, it could be said. And I would also
- 10 like to hear, if you wouldn't mind, your views on
- 11 whether that is relevant and whether the right test is
- 12 looking at the work or whether it's looking at --
- 13 MR LAVY: The product.
- 14 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: And also what has actually been --
- 15 MR LAVY: Sold --
- 16 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: -- sold and whether that is, for
- instance, a sale of a computer program or a sale of
- 18 something not.
- 19 MR LAVY: Yes, that's --
- 20 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: I address that to both of you.
- 21 MR LAVY: I will give you the very short answer now, which
- is that fundamentally one is, as with
- preliminary issue 1 in my submission, looking at this
- from an economic and practical perspective and not
- 25 a technical copyright law perspective. Although

- obviously one has to look at copyright law as well.
- 2 And, therefore, it is the thing that is bought is the
- 3 subject matter of the test.
- I am rather lazily -- and there are points being
- 5 raised -- I will try not to, but been referring to it as
- 6 "the work". But that's a rather overloaded term because
- 7 obviously the work is also the individual bits inside
- 8 it.
- 9 One is asking a question -- it's a two-phase test.
- 10 One: what has been with bought?
- 11 Two: is that thing to be characterised -- and I will
- 12 unpack that a bit later -- as software, a computer
- program, or not?
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: I understand that. So you have the -- you
- 15 will have to help us on the Tom Kabinet test, because
- 16 they say that computer program is incidental, but
- 17 I don't think they were putting that forward as
- 18 a universal test. So you can have at either end the
- 19 incidental, the incidental software or the incidental
- 20 artistic work. But you still have a whole bunch of
- 21 stuff in the middle and you have to -- Mr Hobbs will no
- 22 doubt say this is one of them. This is not incidental;
- these are really important aspects of the program. So
- 24 we then -- if it's a -- so that's easy whether it's
- 5 per cent or 1 per cent, but what do we do with the

- 1 60/40s? We still have to decide which directive
- 2 applies. The incidental test can't be the right one
- 3 because that only deals with --
- 4 MR LAVY: I think it depends what you mean by "incidental".
- 5 But I will clearly address this point. It's important.
- 6 It is an important point.
- 7 Before looking at the authorities on this -- which
- 8 I will -- in light of just some of the points in my
- 9 learned friend's skeleton it is worth just spending
- 10 a few moments saying what we're not saying because it's
- 11 quite important. And I have in mind in particular the
- 12 sections in my learned friend's skeleton about the
- 13 domestic authorities and what bits of what can be
- 14 characterised as works under the InfoSoc Directive and
- so on.
- 16 We're not saying, firstly, that there's no copyright
- in non-program works. Obviously not. We're not saying
- 18 that non-program works aren't protected under the
- 19 InfoSoc Directive either, and so one can quite see if,
- 20 for example, you get -- someone takes the Microsoft
- 21 Office ribbon and copies it and uses it in their own
- 22 software, well, Microsoft has a copyright infringement
- 23 action, no doubt, and that's under the
- InfoSoc Directive. We're not saying that.
- And we're also not raising any sort of magic here.

We're not saying when you have non-program works which are embedded within software they somehow become software. We're not saying that either. They remain non-program works.

Our point is that notwithstanding that they remain non-program works, and notwithstanding that those things are protected under the InfoSoc Directive, a copy of the whole can nonetheless be the subject of a first sale under Article 4(2) of the Software Directive. And, when that happens, the consequence is that the copy of the whole can be resold.

And so this isn't a case about the nature of subsistence of copyright in various aspects of things that might find their way into software.

It's very narrowly and specifically concerned with the circumstances in which Article 4(2) of the Software Directive are engaged.

It's also worth saying that just -- I have said several times this morning, and I will no doubt say again, the CJEU does require one to look at this through a practical and economic prism, not a sort of a very technical copyright law prism. That said, it is worth emphasising, in view of some of the things my learned friend has said, that applying the Software Directive in the way that we suggest it need to be applied doesn't

actually require anything like non-program works to become programs. The position could be analysed in a much more straightforward way.

As we saw in the context of PI 1, where Article 2 of the Software Directive is engaged in relation to a copy of a computer program that copy carries with it the accompanying user licence and that's because, as UsedSoft itself explains clearly, without the licence the copy will be useless and the purchaser wouldn't be able to enjoy their ownership right.

And that logic, in my submission, can, and I say does, plainly extend to the user licence relating to non-program elements for precisely the same reason. If it doesn't, the purchaser wouldn't be able to enjoy their ownership rights in the copy of the software. And that goes both for elements like user interfaces, without which as a matter of technicality the software can't be used, but also other non-program works which the rightsholder has chosen to package in a way that means you can't in fact exercise your right to resell without those things because the rightholder has packaged them all together in a way that doesn't allow for separately downloading them.

So, standing back from an economic and practical perspective, the exhaustion regime under the

- 1 Software Directive is engaged in respect of the whole,
- where it's engaged at all, because the computer program
- 3 is the correct characterisation of the work. But, as
- 4 a matter of legal analysis, that doesn't involve
- 5 non-program works losing their identity as copyright
- 6 works in their own right subject to the
- 7 InfoSoc Directive.
- 8 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: So, if I understand what you have just
- 9 said, we shouldn't be looking at the work, be it Office
- or Windows, and trying to ascertain, just looking at
- 11 that work, whether or not the program elements are more
- 12 or less important than the non-program elements and the
- 13 ranking of those; we should be looking at it in terms of
- 14 the licence that was granted and seeing what licence was
- 15 granted and whether or not that included both or not,
- and which is the most predominant element of that
- 17 because it's that that gives rise to the exhaustion --
- 18 MR LAVY: It's the thing which, as a matter of economic and
- 19 practical reality, was bought.
- 20 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Yes.
- 21 MR LAVY: Now, I (inaudible) for licence only because we
- 22 come back to the point about copies, and I'm currently
- 23 focused on one copy. So where one has -- if by
- "licence" you mean the bundle of rights that comes with
- a copy allowing you to use it, then I agree with you,

- 1 yes.
- 2 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: You put it as the economic and practical
- 3 reality of what was bought.
- 4 MR LAVY: Exactly, yes.
- 5 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: At the moment, I'm just assessing what
- 6 your submission is. And it seems to me what you're
- 7 asking to us look at is what you just put there, the
- 8 economic and practical reality of what was bought, which
- 9 maybe is slightly different than picking up Windows on
- 10 itself and trying to ascertain which bits are the most
- 11 important.
- 12 MR LAVY: It sort of depends what one means by "most
- important". But can I come back to this once we have
- seen the authorities?
- 15 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: All right.
- 16 MR LAVY: Let's start with Nintendo. It's not actually the
- most on point case, but it's the first chronologically.
- 18 That's at bundle 2, tab 31, and it's at page 791.
- 19 Now, this is not a case about exhaustion. Can
- I assume a degree of familiarity with it?
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 22 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Yes.
- 23 MR LAVY: Thank you. That's very helpful.
- So, I mean, it is worth emphasising that the
- 25 questions the court was addressing were not the same

- issues that we're concerned with today. The relevance
 of this case, in my submission, for today is that it
 included, albeit somewhat en passant, a discussion of
 whether the fact that Nintendo video games included
 a software element meant that the InfoSoc Directive
 didn't apply to them. So that's the interesting bit for
 us.
 - That wasn't a question actually referred to the court. The referring court had taken the view that video games weren't computer programs as such. This is CJEU doing their usual thing, and one sees that at paragraph 16, at page 796. Just if you read that, you will see what the referring court thought of the work.
 - And then the only three other paragraphs I would invite the Tribunal, please, to read are 21 to 23, on page 798.
- 17 (Pause)

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- So this passage has the usual slight element of

 Delphic difficulty, but I draw two things from it.
- The first is that in common with the referring court
 the CJEU took the view that a computer game is to be
 characterised as a complex matter and not as a computer
 program, even though it obviously has computer program
 elements in it.
- 25 And the second is that in those circumstances it's

- 1 not just the individual non-program elements protected
- 2 by the InfoSoc Directive, but the work as a whole. The
- 3 entirety taken as a whole.
- Now, I will come back, I promise, in more detail to
- 5 the characterisation point. But I would say at this
- 6 stage that video games are really quite different from
- 7 software like Windows and Office. They're different in
- 8 kind and engage different principles because -- and this
- 9 is really the point we get out of 23 -- they contain
- 10 computer programs, but the program element is subsidiary
- 11 to what the court characterises as the narrative
- 12 pre-determined route.
- 13 Actually, that's from the referring court at
- paragraph 16.
- By which the authors make a group of images and
- 16 sounds appear together, with some conceptual autonomy.
- So the way I would put that is that when one is
- 18 taking a computer game, it's not really fundamentally
- 19 a piece of software; it's a piece of entertainment. It
- 20 has a narrative; it has characters; it has everything
- 21 else and, of course, it's driven by a piece of software
- 22 without which the functionality doesn't work.
- Now, as to the second point, because this is what I
- 24 want to spend time on now.
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: It's more than driven by software. The

- images and sounds are manifest in the program. They are
- 2 not --
- 3 MR LAVY: Well, they are.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: They are part of the code.
- 5 MR LAVY: Well, one has to be careful because it depends on
- 6 the facts. They may or may not be. It depends how the
- 7 game is developed. One can conceive of the images and
- 8 sound being part of the code, but one can also conceive
- 9 of them being resource files pulled in. But, as I say,
- 10 I think one has to look at this from a slightly higher
- 11 level perspective and ask oneself: what is one buying
- when one buys a computer game?
- 13 And the answer is: one is buying a piece of
- 14 entertainment which consists of a whole bunch of
- 15 elements, graphics, sounds, narrative, game play and
- software to stitch it all together and run it.
- Now, as to the second point, context is really
- important here. So Nintendo was of course a case about
- 19 TPM (inaudible). Those in practice apply to this as
- 20 a whole because either your game on a Nintendo cartridge
- 21 is TPM protected or it isn't. You can't have bits of it
- 22 protected. And because the issue affected the work as
- 23 a whole, it is, in my submission, rather unsurprising
- 24 that the court took the view that one directive had to
- apply to the whole because anything else would be

- 1 unworkable.
- 2 The CJEU took a practical and realistic view of the
- 3 issue, not one which draws technical legal distinctions
- 4 between the computer program elements, where a slightly
- 5 different TPM regime would apply, and the non-program
- 6 elements. And when one stands back and looks at it,
- 7 when one asks: well, what TPM regime applies? It can
- 8 really only be the one.
- 9 Now, look at a slightly different question. If the
- issue had been whether someone has unlawfully reverse
- 11 engineered part of the code, well then, plainly that
- 12 would be a Software Directive question and one might be
- looking at articles 5, 3, 6 and so on. So it depends
- 14 what question you're asking as to how the directives are
- 15 engaged. And I say that's really all one can draw from
- 16 Nintendo, which is a case not about exhaustion as such.
- 17 The case which is critical to this issue is of
- 18 course Tom Kabinet and that's at tab 40 of the bundle,
- 19 starting at page 935. This time the issue of program
- 20 and non-program works did arise squarely in the context
- 21 of exhaustion.
- 22 Again, I will assume familiarity with the case.
- 23 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, we have looked at this carefully,
- 24 obviously.
- 25 MR LAVY: Again, very grateful for that. The point of

- 1 particular relevance for our purposes, of course, is the
- defendant's suggestion in that case that eBooks contain
- 3 software, which, interesting on the facts, it wasn't
- 4 clear whether the eBooks did contain software. But the
- 5 court was looking at: yes, but even if they did.
- 6 And that's the interesting point for us. And it's
- 7 the reasoning at paragraph 59 which is key. There's
- 8 plenty of other bits, but I want to start with
- 9 paragraph 59.
- 10 (Pause)
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 12 MR LAVY: So, again, here we see the whole work treatment
- and the court asking itself whether the computer program
- is incidental, which it says it is, or whether it's the
- 15 essential element of the work, which it says the book is
- here. It's the penultimate line. So the
- 17 InfoSoc Directive applies to eBooks because even though
- they may contain computer programs, those are merely
- 19 incidental to it. The text can't be read without it, so
- in one way they're necessary. But the essential element
- of the work as a whole looked at through the prism that
- I say you look at these things is that it's a book.
- If one asks in substance: what is an eBook? It's
- a book. It's not a computer program; it's a piece of
- 25 literature.

1 And I'm obviously going to have to come back to 2 other parts of this judgment to say why they say what 3 they say in 59. But, in terms of the key principle to be extracted, I say you do find it here, in 59, and the key principle is that where you have a mixed work 6 containing computer programs and non-program elements the question of exhaustion is addressed by reference to 7 one directive or another, not both. And the question of 8 9 which one prevails is determined by making an assessment 10 as to which element of the whole is the essential element. That's the quote. 11 Put differently, I say the test actually is you 12 1.3 stand back and ask yourself in substance: is this thing a software product or is it something else? 14 That's the test. 15 16 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: I was just checking, they say at the end of 59: 17 18 "As the Advocate General noted, at 67 of his 19 opinion, an eBook is protected because of its content, 20 which is the essential ... it must therefore be considered an essential element." 21 22 And then he says the eBook is protected by copyright 23 not as a mere digital file, but because of its content,

which obviously must mean the literary content. It

does. That is to say literary work which it contains.

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- 1 How are you saying that's relevant to the issue
- 2 before us?
- I thought you accept that Office and Windows are
- 4 protected by two forms of content, both program and
- 5 non-program works, which doesn't seem to accord with
- 6 what the Attorney General on the court says here.
- 7 MR LAVY: I think it does. Sorry, this is my fault --
- 8 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: I will happily blame you.
- 9 MR LAVY: Thank you. As ever these things are somewhat
- 10 tersely expressed, but what I say one can draw from
- 11 this -- and we will see why, because we have to look at
- 12 the context of this paragraph as well -- is that,
- 13 actually, it's slightly more than just saying because
- 14 a book is protected as a copyright work then the whole
- thing has to be protected as a copyright work. What's
- 16 being said here is, to put it in the vernacular, the
- book is the important bit. And that's why you have the
- 18 reference to the essential element which
- 19 I contra-counter with incidental.
- 20 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Then you're going to come on to how we
- 21 assess, in the current case, what the important bit is?
- Or do you say that the non-program works in the current
- 23 case are incidental or are you --
- 24 MR LAVY: Well, I do say they're incidental when you look
- 25 properly what that means. But that really means they're

- 1 not the important bit. There's no magic in the word
- 2 "incidental".
- 3 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Are they setting out a test here at all?
- 4 MR LAVY: No.
- 5 MR LYKIARDOUPOLOUS: They're making an observation that the
- 6 computer program is incidental and they're making
- 7 an observation that the eBook is -- the content is
- 8 an essential -- is considered to be the essential
- 9 element.
- 10 MR LAVY: Yes.
- 11 MR LYKIARDOUPOLOUS: But, certainly, when one gets to the
- 12 incidental that doesn't seem to be a test at all. That
- 13 seems to be an observation.
- 14 MR LAVY: No, but --
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: But the essential element; is that a key
- 16 finding in the context of that case or is that a test
- generally? It seems to be a bit of a jump to say that's
- 18 a general test to be applied. It's not -- the court
- 19 doesn't seem to be saying that. It doesn't say: if you
- 20 want to know whether a work falls within a particular
- 21 directive you have to ask what the essential element is.
- They're not saying that. In terms.
- 23 MR LAVY: They don't say that in terms, for sure. I don't
- 24 suggest they say that in terms.
- 25 What I say is that if one then -- one looks and sees

- 1 what they did there and -- I was about to do it again.
- 2 The AG -- I was about to call him the AG -- does this
- 3 slightly more effusively and, actually, he does come up
- 4 with something which is slightly closer to a test.
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: But they don't follow.
- 6 MR LAVY: Which is why I took you to this. But, I mean, the
- 7 real point is, I say, if we follow it through, which
- 8 I am about to, it's probably fairer to say not that this
- 9 is the test that's being set out, but this is -- that
- 10 reasoning, by extension of that reasoning, by analogy of
- 11 that reasoning, that's what you have to do. And the
- reason why you have to do it is because, if you don't,
- 13 a lot of things break.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: No, I understand.
- 15 MR LAVY: So, just very briefly, what's quite interesting is
- 16 Microsoft do accept the proposition that incidental does
- seem to be setting out a hierarchical test. But they
- say it's a mistranslation of a completely different
- word.
- 20 I will deal with this point briefly. There's really
- 21 nothing in the point. If you're going to make a point
- on translations, Google Translate doesn't get you very
- far, not least because I typed the same stuff into
- 24 DeepL, for what it's worth, and I got the translation
- 25 "incidental" so go figure. One can't take anything from

- 1 that.
- 2 But the more important point is: one can't construe
- 3 words in a vacuum. I don't latch on to the word
- 4 "incidental" in a vacuum. I say "incidental" has to be
- 5 looked at as against "essential element".
- 6 The third point is, actually, even if you look at
- 7 Microsoft's table of translations, then the word
- 8 "incidental" doesn't sit alone, but it's "merely
- 9 incidental", "only incidental" and -- sorry, "only
- 10 accessory" in their view of the world, "merely
- 11 accessory".
- 12 So, if you actually look at the sentence as a whole,
- it's pretty clear that what I'm drawing from the word
- "incidental" doesn't turn on whether the word is
- "incidental" or "accessory", but I'm not going to dwell
- on that point.
- 17 Now --
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: So what are you saying the test is?
- 19 MR LAVY: I'm saying --
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: What are you saying the test is?
- 21 MR LAVY: The test is. One looks at the -- I'm going to
- 22 call it the product as a whole --
- 23 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 24 MR LAVY: And you ask yourself what, as a matter of economic
- and practical reality, it is. You have to characterise

- 1 it.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, I have that bit.
- 3 MR LAVY: And you have.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: How do you answer that question?
- 5 MR LAVY: In terms of Office and Windows?
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: As a legal approach, how do you answer that
- 7 question?
- 8 MR LAVY: It's like anything in that. It has to be very
- 9 fact dependent. In a sense it's an assessment. It's
- 10 not a bright line legal test. There will be some cases
- 11 which are completely obvious and there will be some
- 12 cases which are more difficult. I actually say that
- 13 we're in a world where it's completely obvious on our
- 14 particular facts. But, undoubtedly, as I say, as with
- 15 many legal tests, there will be -- sometimes it's quite
- 16 easy to apply and sometimes it's very difficult to
- apply, but that's ultimately an evidential question.
- But the reason I say you really have to -- the law
- 19 forces you down this route is not just what it says at
- 20 paragraph 59. But it's the conclusion that actually
- 21 I think is: it flows from the logic of what the court
- 22 has done in Tom Kabinet. It's implicit also in UsedSoft
- and Ranks that this is the right approach. And also,
- it's, in my submission, the only approach which is
- 25 consistent with wider --

- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: Does this point arise in UsedSoft?
- 2 MR LAVY: It didn't directly, no.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: It didn't arise at all?
- 4 MR LAVY: Well, save that the point, when raised implicitly,
- 5 because in UsedSoft they decided that software which is
- 6 certain intangible comes with the software can be
- 7 subject to exhaustion. They were dealing -- this is
- 8 2011, it wasn't sort of back in pre-historic time.
- 9 I don't put the UsedSoft point higher than this: it's
- 10 pretty surprising that no one put their hand up and
- 11 said: hang on a second, if this was thought to be
- 12 a problem, are we really suggesting that Oracle doesn't
- have any interfaces, doesn't have any error messages,
- doesn't have any ...
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: We don't know. But the fact is the point
- 16 wasn't taken.
- 17 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Nor is it in Ranks.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: It wasn't argued.
- 19 MR LYKIARDOUPOLOUS: I don't think it was in Ranks either,
- 20 was it?
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: No.
- 22 MR LAVY: Well, in a sense, I can only take that point so
- far. Let's start with Tom Kabinet and the logic of
- 24 Tom Kabinet.
- 25 Paragraphs 57 and 58, which is just above where we

- 1 have been. So, here, the court is explaining why
- 2 exhaustion applies only to tangible copies under the
- 3 InfoSoc Directive, but to tangible and intangible copies
- 4 under the Software Directive. Can I ask you just to
- 5 read that passage?
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: 57 and 58?
- 7 MR LAVY: Yes, please.
- 8 (Pause)
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 10 MR LAVY: So software and eBooks are fundamentally different
- 11 beasts, is the point being made here. And, again, we
- see this looked at through an economic prism. There's
- an economic rationale for a different regime applied,
- and that's what we see.
- 15 Now, Spooner actually deals with this in more detail
- 16 at page 955. And I should sort of correct myself.
- 17 Spooner was followed; it was AG Bot and UsedSoft he
- wasn't followed by.
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, I beg your pardon.
- 20 MR LAVY: And I vigorously nodded along, as tends to happen.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry.
- 22 MR LAVY: Can I just ask you to have a look at AG61 to 63,
- 23 please? So starting at the bottom of 995.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 25 MR LAVY: So, just considering that rationale, software that

happens to have non-program works in it, so Microsoft Office with its user interface and so on, behaves economically like software. It doesn't behave economically like in musical, literary or cinematographic work. The rationale that leads to the different treatment of eBooks and software is explained by Spooner, and rather more tersely by the court, suggests there should be no difference in treatment between software which happens to contain non-program works and software that doesn't, if there is such a thing.

Now, that rationale also provides a potential prism through which to ask -- to sort of look at the assessment question, if I can put it that way. Does the overall product behave like software from an economic perspective or does it behave more like a literary, musical or cinematographic work? I'm going to start using that word. If it behaves like software, that's generally going to be a good indication that it's a computer program for the purposes of the analysis that I say the court should adopt.

And standing back, what we see here is the issue of exhaustion has to be approached through the prism of economic and practical reality, not legal technicality.

Something that in substance is software from a practical

economic perspective engages the exhaustion regime and Software Directive, even if it happens to have some parts that, looked at in isolation, would fall within the remit of the InfoSoc Directive because those -- the fact that it contains those parts doesn't affect the economic or practical behaviour of the product, or what the rightsholder might want to do with it.

Now, at this point, it's helpful to look at the Valve Corporation, which is the French case my learned friends rely on, and that's in bundle 3, tab 61. And if you're not using tabs, it's 1579.

So this was a case brought by a consumer rights organisation in France seeking removal of a contractual term from the steam video game distribution platform preventing resale of subscriptions. That went to the Cour de Cassation. On the question of whether there should have been a reference to the CJEU on the point, on the point of exhaustion in video games, basically. Intangible copies of video games.

And we can see the proposed reference at paragraph 6 of the judgment, on page 1581, and the court held that there was no need for a reference. My learned friends have cited the relevant paragraphs, but it's really 11 to 15 are the key ones.

25 (Pause)

- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: It struck me as a little bit -- just, I mean,
- 2 what they mean in paragraph 14 that a light software can
- 3 be used again and again by new players several years
- 4 after its -- what's the distinction?
- 5 MR LAVY: So, well, this is really the distinction that
- 6 Spooner is making in Tom Kabinet.
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. I'm not sure I understand it there
- 8 either.
- 9 MR LAVY: So, as it were, where you have a computer program,
- something you're using as a tool, you're going to buy it
- 11 because you need it. You'll keep it until it's
- obsolescent and then you have to buy the new version,
- you will upgrade it, whatever.
- 14 Whereas with something that's entertainment, like a
- 15 video game or an eBook. You read it, watch it, play
- 16 with it once, maybe a few times. Then you're bored of
- it. You've done it, so you get rid of your copy, and by
- selling it on the second-hand market, if there is
- 19 second-hand market, then you're on to something else.
- 20 The point is --
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: They all become obsolete because computers
- 22 change and anything used on the computer -- I am often
- 23 told I can't do this because I need to update my system
- 24 software or something, and whether it's an eBook or
- 25 whether it's a computer program, they all seem to

- become -- if that's what "obsolete" means, they all seem
- 2 to become obsolete. And we have books in the Bodleian
- 3 Library that are thousands of years old. I'm not quite
- 4 sure what this distinction is between --
- 5 MR LAVY: The point is it's about their ongoing worth. And
- 6 if you think about the reason why you're updating your
- 7 software, in truth it's because you're being forced to
- 8 by the technology. But, just setting that aside, it's
- 9 because the software that you bought, if you don't patch
- it, becomes a liability, effectively stops working. It
- 11 stops doing you need, and it's at that point you no
- 12 longer have need of it.
- The distinction --
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Would the same happen with a video game?
- 15 MR LAVY: No.
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: Updating and patching as things change. It
- is, in that sense, a computer program.
- 18 MR LAVY: It's certainly got computer programs in it. But
- 19 the point is, though, it's fundamentally a piece of
- 20 entertainment which you can be bored of and want to get
- 21 rid of before it's actually obsolete, so it can be
- of value -- it's more likely to be of value on resale.
- 23 THE CHAIRMAN: If it's Hamlet, then you become bored of it,
- 24 but --
- 25 MR LAVY: The problem is with all these sorts of tests, at

- 1 one level it's always going to depend. But the broader
- 2 economic point that's being made here is that when you
- 3 take video games as a whole they behave more like, say,
- 4 books. They're entertainment. You use them. Once
- 5 you're bored of them you get rid of them.
- 6 Soft computer programs generally are different in
- 7 that you keep them until they're obsolete and then they
- 8 no longer have worth.
- 9 Now, obviously, that's not --
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Really? Anyway.
- 11 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Just so -- I am slightly lost now. What
- is it you want to submit about this decision?
- 13 MR LAVY: The primary thing, and the reason I went to it
- 14 actually, is because my learned friends rely on it and
- say it's a complete answer to PI 2. I say, no, it
- 16 isn't. If you look at the reasoning in paragraphs 14
- and 15 in particular, it's drawing the distinction that
- I say one should be drawing, albeit I of course accept
- 19 that on particular facts it can be hard to make
- 20 an assessment. So this is not -- this --
- 21 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: You draw from this that they're, again,
- 22 saying one should jump one way or the other?
- 23 MR LAVY: Yes. Jump one way or the other. And with
- 24 computer games you typically don't jump the same way as
- with software. That's the short point.

- 1 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: (Overspeaking) and we accept or don't
- 2 accept that computer games differ in the
- 3 Court of Justice and the French court.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: They're different for a number of reasons.
- 5 I'm just not sure this is the most easily
- 6 understandable.
- 7 MR LAVY: To make it absolutely clear: had my learned
- 8 friends not referred to this case neither would I have
- 9 done.
- 10 So that's -- brings -- I'm not going to raise
- 11 UsedSoft again, but I will just say in Ranks. I'm sure,
- 12 Mr Chairman, you will think exactly the same point,
- which is the point simply wasn't raised. But I say it
- is significant. You have a case which is dealing with
- 15 exhaustion, dealing with -- at least discussing both
- 16 tangible and intangible copies.
- 17 You have Microsoft as one of the parties to that
- 18 case. It's dealing with Microsoft software, the very
- 19 software we're talking about in this case, and no one
- 20 says: hang on a minute because Office and Windows are
- 21 stuffed full of --
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: As you point out, Microsoft only had this
- 23 bright idea relatively recently. Someone in the legal
- team may or may not become a hero or heroine, we shall
- 25 see.

- 1 MR LAVY: But I don't take that point beyond that.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: It may just not --
- 3 MR LAVY: It may just not have arisen.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: That doesn't mean it's a bad point.
- 5 MR LAVY: No. I suppose this is of a piece, isn't it? As
- 6 the chairman knows well from previous hearings, this is
- 7 a market that's been going on a long time. This is --
- 8 the point has arisen when it's arisen.
- 9 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: And, really, a better point you're
- 10 coming to, perhaps shortly, is whether or not it drives
- a coach and horses through Article 4(2).
- 12 MR LAVY: My very next point, yes.
- 13 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Address us on that.
- 14 MR LAVY: EU law principles. But, really, I'm going to take
- 15 two together. One is the lex specialis point. We have
- 16 a lex specialis under Article 4(2) of the
- 17 Software Directive. The fact that for things within its
- scope a lex specialis takes precedent is trite law. We
- 19 have this in the commission case. I don't propose to
- 20 look at it.
- 21 The second and related point is that directives have
- 22 to be interpreted in accordance with effet utile. They
- 23 have to be interpreted in a way that gives them
- 24 effectiveness. And, again, we have an authority
- 25 reference, but it's trite law. I don't propose to go to

- 1 it. I'm going to just focus on applying those
 2 principles.
- 3 If the exhaustion regime under the
- 4 Software Directive doesn't have effect in relation to
- 5 software that contains non-program works, then
- 6 exhaustion of intangible copies under Article 4(2) --
- 7 and we know that Article 4(2) does deal with intangible
- 8 copies because that's what UsedSoft tells us -- would
- 9 be -- well, I say of almost no practical application
- 10 because, as I have already observed, almost all
- 11 non-trivial software is going to contain some
- 12 non-program works. But I don't actually have to go that
- 13 far because, even if there's a computer program that
- doesn't have any non-program works, then you have
- 15 a cadre of computer programs for which Article 4(2)
- isn't allowed to apply because whenever there's
- a non-program work in a computer program the
- Article 4(2) of the Software Directive, on my learned
- friend's case, can't apply to that computer program.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: We don't have a feel for whether that's
- 21 10 per cent of computer programs, 80 per cent of
- computer programs? I mean, I just don't know enough
- about the computer programs used in the banking industry
- or engineering, or how many of them have -- you're
- 25 making a reasonable speculation, but it would seem to be

- 1 a speculation.
- 2 MR LAVY: But, even if it's a subset of them, my points
- 3 still stand in respect of that subset. You have
- a directive which purports to govern the exhaustion
- 5 position in relation to intangible copies of all
- 6 computer programs. There's, on any view, a non-trivial
- 7 subset of those computer programs, namely, for a start,
- 8 everything with a GUI, which is not, on my learned
- 9 friend's case, subject to that exhaustion regime.
- 10 Therefore you're taking a very big chunk out of the
- 11 effet utile even if it's only a subset. And for those
- 12 cases -- for all that software which does come with
- 13 NPWs, well then the lex specialis for software somehow
- doesn't bite on them.
- So I do say in a sense, even if one sets aside my
- 16 submission that in the real world that's most of them,
- 17 the point is still live. You have the lex specialis
- 18 problem, you have the effet utile problem because the
- 19 Software Directive doesn't say it's intended to deal
- 20 with a subset of software. It's meant to be dealing
- 21 with all software. So that's my point on that.
- 22 And if one looks back at UsedSoft, although, yes, of
- course UsedSoft isn't dealing with this specific issue,
- but the reasoning in UsedSoft is very, very focused on
- effet utile and one can see that at paragraphs 48, 49.

- 1 In fact, it is probably worth looking briefly, if
- 2 I may ask you to go back to tab 28 ...
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, what -- 48, did you say?
- 4 MR LAVY: At tab 28, paragraphs 48 and 49, which are on
- 5 page 762.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: And the point you're making is?
- 7 MR LAVY: Is that the reasoning for the UsedSoft decision is
- 8 very much focused on this idea of a faire à tire giving
- 9 the Software Directive in Article 4(2) in particular
- 10 effect. And, yes, of course we're talking about
- 11 a different sub-issue here, but it comes back to the
- 12 overarching point I have been making, which is that
- 13 we're dealing with a world in which it's the economic
- 14 and practical reality of the matters. You have
- 15 a judgment here, the key judgment on exhaustion of
- 16 intangibles under Article 4(2), and what it says is, you
- 17 know, you have to look at the effet utile and that's
- 18 really what I draw from that. And the same point again
- 19 at 8223 and we won't go to it.
- 20 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: You would also rely on paragraph 61 with
- 21 your economic point of view, where they say the sale of
- 22 a program downloaded from the internet is similar,
- online is functional equivalent of material. Different
- from the Court of Justice in Kabinet talked about in 59,
- 58, and 57 about eBooks and books.

- 1 MR LAVY: Yes. And that's the equal treatment point.
- 2 That's the next principle. So you have lex specialis,
- 3 you have effet utile, then you have this precisely this
- 4 point, which is the principle of equal treatment. When
- 5 you have things which are similar situations they have
- 6 to be treated in a similar way, unless a different
- 7 treatment is objectively justified. And that's the
- 8 point at 61.

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And it is very difficult to see how differential
treatment of software where the user interface without,
for example, can actually be justified, or indeed
software bundled with clip art or which the purchaser
didn't specifically ask for, but the rightsholder chose
to include in software that doesn't have that. How do

you objectively justify that distinction?

So, from an economic and practical perspective, the two really are the same. In both cases we have a perpetual licence. The rightsholders receive full consideration for the copy being in circulation. That's the price that's been voluntarily charged for the package of stuff that's delivered on a perpetual licence basis. So, if purchase of a perpetual licence exhausts the distribution rights in the computer program element, well, why not the rest as a matter of just economic analysis and common sense?

- 1 And as you say, sir, just as the principle of equal
- 2 treatment in Tom Kabinet was used as a rationale for
- 3 treating tangible and intangible copies of software in
- 4 the same way, but not eBooks, because they said they
- 5 wasn't an objective justification there, I say there's
- an equal rationale for treating all software in the same
- 7 way, regardless of whether it happens to have
- 8 non-program works in it.
- 9 But there's another aspect of equal treatment, too,
- 10 which is if my learned friends are right it means that
- 11 there's no difficulty reselling tangible copies because
- 12 under InfoSoc, of course, that's an article -- that's no
- drama -- than there is with intangible copies. Now,
- 14 what's the objective justification there of saying
- 15 Microsoft Office can be resold on a CD ROM, but not its
- via internet download? I think that's an utterly
- 17 illogical distinction.
- I am reminded that I need to have a transcriber
- 19 break.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. How are we doing?
- 21 MR LAVY: We're doing well, actually. We're definitely
- going to finish before the end, and I will leave myself
- 23 at least a little bit of time for reply.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Very good.
- 25 (3.14 pm)

- 1 (A short break)
- 2 (3.24 pm)
- 3 MR LAVY: So the final and related principle, which I'm not
- 4 going to dwell on because we have already touched on it,
- 5 is free movement and the Article 36 point about
- 6 objective justification. Just to flag that we cite
- 7 Deutsche Grammophon, paragraph 11, for that proposition.
- 8 That's tab 17, page 512. And also I'm going to flag
- 9 paragraph 63 of UsedSoft, which deals with that point.
- 10 But it's effectively the same submission, so I won't do
- it again.
- 12 So those are the reasons why, in my submission, the
- 13 correct approach under EU law is as I say it is.
- I need to do two more things now. One is to briefly
- 15 deal with a point -- I will try to do this briefly --
- 16 that my learned friends make about the treaties, WCT.
- 17 And then I want to just touch on how this applies and
- 18 a little bit about the evidence.
- 19 So, on the treaties, so really the point I have to
- 20 pick up is paragraph 102 of my learned friends'
- 21 skeletons, which says the treaties draw a fundamental
- 22 distinction between a program and non-program works.
- They don't. That's simply wrong, I'm afraid, and once
- 24 that error is corrected Microsoft's argument about the
- 25 treaties fall away, because if the treaties preclude

- 1 digital exhaustion, which is what Microsoft suggests,
- 2 then UsedSoft itself has to be contrary to the treaties
- 3 in allowing for additional exhaustion. And even
- 4 Microsoft is not arguing that.
- 5 The true position is that there's no difficulty with
- 6 digital exhaustion from a treaty perspective. They
- 7 don't provide for it; neither do they prohibit it. And
- 8 really the key to unlocking this is to realise that
- 9 there's no distinction between programs and non-programs
- 10 under the treaties.
- 11 WCT, extended copyright protection to computer
- 12 programs, we have WCT in the third authorities bundle
- 13 and it's tab 55.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: By the way, I think there is not
- 15 an explanatory memorandum for the Software Directive, is
- 16 there?
- 17 One has been produced?
- 18 MR LAVY: I don't think so. There's -- there is -- I think
- 19 you've probably taken judicial notice of the fact that
- 20 if either party thought it was useful it would be in
- 21 there.
- So page 1360 of tab 55, Article 4. This is WCT
- 23 dealing with computer programs. Computer programs are
- 24 protected as literary works in the meaning of Article 2
- of (inaudible).

- 1 So that's the point there. This was how it's done.
- 2 There's no special category under WCT for software.
- 3 They're just protected as literary works. And, of
- 4 course, while we're here, if we flip over to the next
- 5 page, 1361 --
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: We have the optional exhaustion.
- 7 MR LAVY: We have exhaustion. But what you see with the
- 8 exclusive right of distribution, it's authors of
- 9 literary and artistic works. There's nothing specific
- 10 about computers there. So computer programs are dealt
- 11 with in the same way as any other literary work under
- 12 Article 6.
- 13 So that's the first point.
- And, by the way, it's the same under Article 10 of
- 15 Tribbs, but I'm not going to go there. So there is in
- 16 fact no distinction between computer and non-computer
- works under the treaties. And so once one sees there
- are no special categories for software, as I say, that
- 19 really is the end of my learned friend's argument on
- 20 this.
- 21 But we can see, obviously, at Article 6, how WCT
- deals with exhaustion under Article 6(2). The only
- point I make, apart from no special treatment for
- 24 software, is that contracting parties are free --
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: (overspeaking).

- 1 MR LAVY: -- and that really is the end of it. And of
- 2 course the EU went a different way with Tom Kabinet, but
- 3 that's not a treaty problem. We have set out in our
- 4 skeleton why we say the agreed statement is a false
- 5 reliance, but given time I wasn't really proposing to go
- 6 there.
- 7 The two bits for your sort of evening reading, if I
- 8 could be so presumptuous, if you were interested in this
- 9 treaty point, the agreed statement on Article 6, at
- paragraph 6.4.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: I understand why you're talking about that.
- 12 Yes, the agreed statement.
- 13 MR LAVY: Article 6.4 which is tab 56 --
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: I have looked at that.
- 15 MR LAVY: The short point on that is it's talking about
- 16 minimal levels of protection. There's nothing to stop
- 17 you having an intangible distribution right. It's just
- not prescribed. And really, as I say, one comes back to
- 19 the point -- and this is why I am rushing through it,
- 20 really -- UsedSoft says what it says. No special
- 21 treatment for software and that's the end of that on the
- 22 treaties point.
- It is worth -- one other point, after UsedSoft went
- 24 back down to Germany, Oracle sought to argue precisely
- 25 that in Germany, that the UsedSoft decision was contrary

- 1 to the treaties. One sees that in UsedSoft 2.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 3 MR LAVY: The chairman is familiar with it. It's
- 4 paragraph 38. The court in Germany explains why that's
- 5 wrong. That applies, too.
- 6 So application to Office and Windows. A few points
- 7 to make briefly on the evidence.
- 8 There is plainly voluminous evidence on Microsoft's
- 9 part as to various categories of NPWs. I do say that
- 10 evidence has to be -- it may not matter at the end of
- 11 the day, but it has to be treated with a degree of
- 12 caution. A few just headline points.
- 13 A very big play is made about how much stuff there
- is. But, actually, what one sees if one looks at the
- 15 bundles, the e-bundles that deal with the actual works
- is there's quite a lot of duplication. If you look at,
- for example, E3, E5, E8, they seem to us to be basically
- 18 identical. Some of the material in those bundles, in my
- 19 submission, copyright simply obviously doesn't subsist
- 20 in them, things like just a block of black or something.
- 21 But that doesn't really matter for present purposes. It
- doesn't matter.
- More importantly, the Tribunal have been given
- a very one-sided picture because what we have no insight
- into at all -- because Microsoft have chosen not to tell

- 1 us -- is all the effort, the works and everything else
- 2 that goes into the computer software development. And
- 3 even where we do have evidence of what's purportedly
- 4 user interface -- so Mr Harris's statement is the
- 5 obvious example -- great lengths are gone to, to explain
- 6 how much work the redesign of Office was. Well, maybe
- 7 so. But as Microsoft have actually confirmed in the RFI
- 8 response in respect of it, that includes the developer
- 9 work. So all that work is not just non-program works.
- 10 So one has to be a little bit careful.
- 11 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Sorry, you said we had one-sided
- 12 picture, no evidence. Is that fair or Mr Harris in his
- 13 second witness statement comes back a little bit, does
- 14 he not? Says he has to make some investment, would have
- 15 been well over 20 per cent of the total amount spent for
- 16 Office 2007. That's the user interface.
- 17 MR LAVY: Well, yes, but my point is that's not the
- non-program works element for the user interface. As
- 19 Microsoft have now confirmed in an RFI response, his
- 20 response 8 or 9 to the most recent RFI, that includes a
- 21 big development team. We don't know what the size of it
- is, but a development team that was working on it. So
- 23 Mr Harris had his project of redesigning the user
- interface. Yes, some of that was no doubt coming up
- 25 with new icons and things, but it was also about

- 1 developing the software for the new user interface.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Programming as well as --
- 3 MR LAVY: That's right. Programming as well. That's in
- 4 that 20 per cent. So that's my point. One can't
- 5 actually tease out what truly was the investment in the
- 6 non-program works.
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: And the RFI; can you give a reference for
- 8 that?
- 9 MR LAVY: It's C13. It's an RFI response by letter. It's
- 10 an RFI we put in about this evidence.
- 11 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: While we're looking at it, can you just
- 12 take us to which paragraph you're talking about?
- 13 MR LAVY: The paragraph in Harris?
- 14 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: In the RFI.
- 15 MR LAVY: Yes, of course.
- 16 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: If you have it. Or someone can give it
- 17 to you. I don't want you to use up time.
- 18 MR LAVY: Response 8.1 and I think 8.9, on page 3.
- 19 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Thank you. I see.
- 20 MR LAVY: So there was only one party who could give
- 21 an insight into all of this and they haven't.
- In a way, in my submission, perhaps it doesn't
- 23 matter that much, because it's not a numbers game in any
- event. But there is, actually, potential relevance to
- 25 this because the proportion of effort and investment and

- so on that goes into program works versus non-program
- 2 works might be a factor that goes into the overall
- 3 assessment that the Tribunal might want to make as to
- 4 whether, looked at properly, these things are computer
- 5 program works -- computer programs for the purposes of
- 6 the Software Directive or not computer programs. So it
- 7 might be relevant.
- 8 As you will have seen, that's not our primary case.
- 9 Really, insofar as it's relevant it's relevant as
- 10 a proxy. No more than a proxy, really, for what the
- important bit is, if I can put it that way.
- 12 The real test, in my submission, isn't quite that.
- 13 It is the more economically driven real world question:
- 14 are we looking at a computer program or are we looking
- 15 at something else?
- 16 And actually one way of answering that question --
- are we looking at a computer program or are we looking
- 18 at something else? -- is something rather helpfully
- 19 suggested by Mr Spooner, AG Spooner and just one
- 20 paragraph I don't think we have gone to yet in his
- opinion in Tom Kabinet is at tab 40, page 955.
- 22 Could I just ask you to read AG57, please?
- 23 THE CHAIRMAN: Tab --
- 24 MR LAVY: Tab 40, page 955.
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, which page?

- 1 MR LAVY: 955.
- 2 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: It came out differently on the
- 3 transcript.
- 4 MR LAVY: That's probably because it's the time of day I'm
- 5 speaking unintelligibly.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: Where are we going?
- 7 MR LAVY: We're looking at AG57, top of the page:
- 8 "It is true that in accordance with ..."
- 9 Frankly it's really the last five lines which are
- 10 the most important.
- 11 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Sorry, and what are we getting, are you
- 12 basically just submitting sort of if it quacks like
- 13 a duck sort of thing.
- 14 MR LAVY: Yes, it's a tool of software, if it's
- 15 entertainment it might be a video game, if you read it
- it's a book; exactly, yes. My point is it's not
- 17 a bright line test; it's an assessments test, but
- 18 that's -- what it's sort of a piece with and why it's
- important is it comes back to the point I've made
- 20 probably far too many times, which is one has to look at
- 21 the practical and economic reality.
- 22 That's what all of this jurisprudence tells us; if
- 23 nothing else that's what it tells us. Everything else
- has to slot into that, and if you do that with Office
- and Windows I submit it's plain that they're computer

- 1 programs in the relevant sense. Yes, they have user
- interfaces, they're entirely functional. You have
- 3 a user interface because otherwise you can't use it.
- 4 Yes, it comes with clip art, and all sorts of other
- 5 bits and pieces and we have evidence on this; that's the
- 6 Golev evidence at paragraphs 18 to 20.
- 7 Now, I wasn't going to dwell on it but it's probably
- 8 worth a quick look because of the admissibility question
- 9 that's arisen.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Do you need it?
- 11 MR LAVY: Well, only in this sense, sir: we're in a slightly
- sort of surreal world and I say that with no disrespect
- 13 to the Tribunal whereby we all know what Office and
- Windows is, and then there's the question of how we use
- 15 it. But there's the evidential point that the Tribunal
- 16 has properly raised. And so, therefore, what we have
- 17 there is evidence of someone -- it's said this is
- inadmissible in evidence. Actually, it's not it's
- 19 really trade usage evidence and it's someone speaking
- 20 from his own experience. One can ask what the weight
- is, but it's perfectly admissible evidence.
- 22 And we also have Horley, who says basically the same
- thing in his third statement, at paragraph 34. That's
- 24 at page D1/224.
- 25 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Sorry, I'm behind. In relation to the

- 1 Golev statement; what paragraphs were you relying on?
- 2 MR LAVY: 18 to 20.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Can I ask, sorry, a very basic question? My
- 4 ignorance, if you have a piece of clip art or an audio
- 5 recording which is digital; is that software or not?
- 6 MR LAVY: An audio recording which is digital?
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 8 MR LAVY: Well --
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Or a piece of clip art. The image which is
- 10 encoded digitally; does that fall within the definition
- of software or not, taken in isolation?
- 12 MR LAVY: Well, taken in isolation, probably not. Taken in
- isolation it's an art work, isn't it?
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Isn't obvious code and --
- 15 MR LAVY: It might be. It depends -- it could be both,
- 16 couldn't it?
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: How might it not be?
- 18 MR LAVY: Because what you might have is something where,
- 19 rather than encoding the thing into a piece of software,
- you might simply have a file in a standard file format
- 21 sitting on a disk which is then pulled in by the
- 22 program.
- 23 THE CHAIRMAN: But it would be still be -- won't it be
- object code at some level?
- 25 MR LAVY: I suppose we go possibly into a philosophical

- debate. For sure it's going to be binding. It's going
- 2 to be encoded in some way. But I think it's fair to say
- 3 that what the domestic authorities tell us is that
- 4 doesn't necessarily in and of itself make it software.
- 5 I think an answer is it's going to depend. It's going
- 6 to be quite factually --
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: Which authority did you have in mind?
- 8 MR LAVY: I was thinking really of the Wright case and this
- 9 idea that --
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: It's not really explained in that.
- 11 MR LAVY: No.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: It's mentioned, I think.
- 13 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Sorry, for just one -- I don't know,
- maybe sort of coming an end, but could you just also
- 15 help me with one other point, just so I understand it?
- 16 And that's in the statement of facts, paragraph 122, and
- my question is going to be: what does this mean? And,
- secondly, do you say it matters?
- 19 MR LAVY: Let me have a look.
- 20 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Statement of facts A1, page 41. At
- 21 paragraph 122, and there's the equivalent at
- 22 paragraph 138, it is agreed between you both that use of
- 23 a digital copy of Office -- or the same is agreed on
- 24 Windows -- would inevitably result in copies of at least
- some non-program works or a substantial part of thereof

- being made on the computer.
- 2 And two questions. I don't really understand how it
- 3 is that only some of the non-program works would be
- 4 copied. And, secondly, does that matter? So do you say
- 5 it makes any difference if you have no non-program works
- 6 which are not inevitably copied? Which is what that
- 7 seemed to suggest.
- 8 MR LAVY: No, the answer to the second question is I don't
- 9 think it does matter.
- I think the point this paragraph is trying to get at
- is it is in the nature of software that in order for it
- 12 to be used it has to be load into the RAM of a machine.
- 13 That involves transient copying always. I suppose
- insofar as bits of clip art or whatever are used, if
- they're used they're going to be loaded in, and if
- they're not used they're not. They're going to be
- 17 sitting on the thing. And they won't, I think, fall
- 18 within that paragraph, but I don't --
- 19 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Okay, that's what it's going to be.
- 20 Okay, I was trying to work out what it was -- what are
- 21 the words are going to.
- 22 MR LAVY: I think it's just an agreed position as to what
- inevitably happens.
- 24 From our perspective, the only significance of
- 25 things like clip art is that one can't download Office

- 1 without them. I mean, in a way, in the counterfactual
- 2 world you would have been able to -- Microsoft gave you
- 3 an option --
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Just understanding some of the cases, they
- 5 all seem to proceed on the basis that the program is
- 6 different from the digital work. You mentioned Mr
- 7 Justice Armer(?) decision and also Tom Kabinet. And
- 8 clearly there are differences, but I'm just not sure
- 9 that the digital representation of the novel in
- 10 Tom Kabinet is properly said not to be a computer
- 11 program. It may or may not be, but I don't know why.
- 12 It's a different type of program.
- 13 MR LAVY: It may that be it's both, mightn't it? It may be
- in reality it is a computer program, but that doesn't --
- 15 that's stopped literary copyright also --
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, I understand that, but I'm not sure it
- 17 matters. And the legal position is clear.
- 18 MR LAVY: It may be that it's an example of something that
- 19 can be both at the same time, I suppose. Maybe there
- 20 are --
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, that's my understanding, both. And
- I had another question, sorry.
- 23 MR LAVY: Yes. I'm here to answer questions.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Preparatory works. So software -- so it's in
- 25 the recitals, isn't it? And it's referred to in

- 1 a number of the authorities that preparatory works fall
- within the concept. Why isn't -- and obviously I'm
- 3 asking Mr Hobbs the same question. Why isn't the design
- 4 work in which copyright is -- artistic copyright is
- 5 claimed -- why is that not a preparatory work?
- 6 MR LAVY: Yes, that is certainly a point I have thought
- 7 about. I think --
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: It's a bit odd that an artistic work could
- 9 then be a literary work.
- 10 MR LAVY: I know. I think we may -- and I am speaking
- 11 slightly on the hoof here. But I think we might be in
- the world where it could be a preparatory work. But,
- again, that doesn't mean necessarily there are no art
- 14 works there as well.
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, just as it could also be a program.
- 16 MR LAVY: Well, exactly. And I think in truth this is the
- 17 problem. One puts the analytical copyright --
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: I suppose my question is: do we get any
- 19 assistance from the cases that you have in mind as to
- 20 what -- how you tell when something is a preparatory
- 21 work or what a preparatory work is?
- 22 MR LAVY: Yes. I mean, I don't think it's in the bundle.
- 23 But there is a CJEU case on this. I don't think it's --
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: I found a paragraph on it somewhere, but it
- 25 didn't really take it --

- 1 MR LAVY: No.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: I can't remember which case.
- 3 MR LAVY: I can be reasonably confident that it's not
- 4 particularly helpful to the analysis because neither of
- 5 us have put it in and we have looked. And I'm sorry
- I can't be more helpful because off the top of my
- 7 head --
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: Neither party is relying on that, so.
- 9 MR LAVY: No. Again, what this conversation shows, though,
- if I may say so, sir, is the difficulty with the
- 11 analytical overload. Copyright is a bundle of rights.
- 12 There are an awful lot of things going on. We have
- 13 these two directives. One has to cut through it somehow
- 14 to make sense of them both. And I think, really, it is
- 15 the one point you take from all of the authorities,
- 16 UsedSoft and Tom Kabinet in particular. You have to
- 17 come up with a solution that insofar as is possible
- gives effect to everything and gives effect to the
- 19 economic reality. And that's really -- of course, we
- 20 have to go round the houses as we have done, but really
- 21 that is my submission in a nutshell and there's only one
- 22 way forward on that.
- Could you just give me two minutes?
- 24 (Pause)
- I am reminded that in fact there is, for what it is

- 1 worth, some evidence in the bundle on what Windows and
- Office is, and we can see that if you look at Horley 3,
- 3 paragraph 7, which is in D1, tab 3, page 30, there are
- 4 referred to in that paragraph a bunch of exhibited
- 5 articles, which are in the E bundle, which are in fact
- 6 for the most part, I think, Wikipedia pages. But they
- 7 haven't been challenged and they give you the headline
- 8 view as to what these programs are.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: I'm not sure -- yes. I think we would still
- 10 like (inaudible), if possible.
- 11 MR LAVY: I thought you might say that. We can but try.
- 12 Subject to any further questions, those are my
- 13 submissions.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr Hobbs?
- 15 MR HOBBS: Could I just ask whether you're going to finish
- 16 at 4.00?
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: 4.30.
- 18 MR HOBBS: 4.30, right, excellent. Or not.
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: If that's convenient. Unless you prefer to
- 20 start tomorrow.
- 21 Submissions by MR HOBBS
- 22 MR HOBBS: Let's see how I go. I'm going to make some
- general observations, picking up on a few points in
- 24 a miscellaneous way. I'm then going to summarise my
- 25 submissions in simple form, bullet point form, as

- 1 a route map for you as to where I'm going to go after
- that and, where I go after that, tomorrow might be
- 3 a better day to go.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Of course, whatever is convenient.
- 5 MR HOBBS: Thank you. I just want to say we have had
- 6 a division of labour on my side and I will be addressing
- 7 you on the legal aspects of PI 1 and PI 2 and my learned
- 8 friend Mr Riordan will address you on the factual
- 9 aspects of both and assist you with any questions you
- 10 may have on that connection with the material in the
- 11 bundle.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Very prudent.
- 13 MR HOBBS: So, in heavy black pen, a single -- I'm going to
- 14 pick up on a point that came late. It's part of my
- 15 miscellaneous points at the beginning. A single regime
- 16 has to prevail. Well, why? Why? One of the first
- things you learn as a copyright lawyer is the way in
- 18 which copyright layers on top of other copyright. It's
- 19 so well-known.
- 20 For example, I'm going to take, just for the sake of
- 21 making a point, assume that you have a Japanese author
- 22 that wins the Nobel Prize for literature. Assume there
- is a gifted English translator that produces a good
- 24 English translation. Assume there's a stage play writer
- 25 that wants to write it up for a dramatisation. Assume

- 1 that there's a screenplay writer that wants to turn the
- 2 play into a Hollywood production. These are not
- 3 imaginary things; these are everyday things.
- 4 Then you have the Hollywood production. Then you
- 5 have the videos, everything that goes with it.
- Those copyrights all stack up and it's no defence to
- 7 say that you have clearance under one of them if what
- 8 you do when you do what you do is to invade the
- 9 copyright protection in relation to the others.
- 10 There is absolutely nothing except my learned
- 11 friend's rhetorical address to you to say that a single
- regime has to prevail. Absolutely nothing. It's wrong
- in principle.
- Next thing I would like to pick up with is there is,
- 15 whether you have appreciated it yet or not, a constant
- juggling with words going on in the way that the
- 17 submissions are being put.
- The Software Directive, as we call it, doesn't use
- 19 the word "software" except in one recital which I will
- 20 show you.
- 21 This is why, every time you read a judgment of the
- 22 CJEU, it uses -- and sometimes it's very stilted on the
- 23 language -- program, program, program and we know from
- the leading case on the subject of what a program is,
- 25 which is the Sony Entertainment case, which is the

- 1 recent judgment. Basically it's code; basically it's
- 2 code.
- 3 Other elasticities around the use of language: user
- 4 rights, user licences, products. Products, the very use
- of the word "product" conceals the issues that you are
- 6 going to have to grapple with. So does the expression
- 7 "entire works". Works, you have to be clear what you're
- 8 talking about.
- 9 So can I just pick up with you then on the
- 10 Software Directive if you, as I'm going to call it,
- 11 because everybody calls it. To its friends -- well, to
- its friends and its enemies it's known as the
- 13 Software Directive.
- 14 You find that, yes, I can see you probably have it
- loose but if you haven't it's in authorities tab 2,
- 16 page 18.
- 17 So in the very heading of course it does what it
- says on the tin for the legal protection of computer
- 19 programs. This is a codified version of the earlier
- 20 directive. My recollection is that there was
- 21 a (inaudible) in relation to the earlier directive,
- 22 although I will have a look to see whether it could be
- of any assistance to you.
- There is only one place in which there are
- 25 references to software and that's in recital number 10,

where there's an extended paragraph which leads up to

the concept of interoperability, but those are the only

references to software that I have found anywhere.

1.3

And then Article 8, there is the one and only reference to the word "products" and that is completely beside anything that we have on our radar screens here today. That's to do with semiconductor products. It does not speak at any stage in terms of software or products; it speaks strictly of programs.

While we have paragraph 8 in front of us, this is extremely important. We noted it early on in our skeleton. The continued application of other legal provisions. This is yet another reason given to you by the community legislator, the EU legislator:

"The provisions of this directive shall be without prejudice to any other legal provisions."

That of course includes the InfoSoc Directive. How could it not, and these provisions here operate without prejudice to InfoSoc.

Another thing that they operate without prejudice
to -- and I must bring it up now while you have

Article 8 in front of you -- includes the law of
contract and I will be showing you -- perhaps not today;
well, no, not today -- but I believe showing you at the
convenient point tomorrow that the top logistic case

- 1 which makes it crystal clear that you can have
- 2 a contractual regime which organises all the things to
- 3 do with the exploitation of the software, but the one
- 4 thing that contractual regime cannot do is to block the
- 5 exercise of the exhaustion right.
- 6 There was a discussion which it almost shot over my
- 7 head on the question of a quantum wave.
- 8 But, forgive me, I think I got the gist of it. The
- 9 answer to that in a nutshell is this: exhaustion, when
- 10 it occurs, occurs at the point of sale and the right
- 11 which is acquired at that point is a circumscribed
- 12 right. And one of the ways in which it's circumscribed
- is that when you come to make a transfer of it you must
- 14 make sure that you do the deletion, erasure, whatever it
- is to make sure the works, the code, the software that
- 16 you have unusable.
- 17 So it's not something that rambles through time; it
- only ever always was a circumscribed right with the
- 19 terms and conditions that go with it.
- 20 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: But that doesn't follow therefore as
- 21 matter for the transferor and not the transferee.
- 22 MR HOBBS: No, because if they don't have the right they
- don't have the right. You can't give what you don't
- have. It's not possible. You can't give it.
- 25 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: Right.

- 1 MR HOBBS: And I'm going to develop that a little further in
- 2 my headline submissions, which I will get to in perhaps
- 3 about five or ten minutes.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Can I -- sorry, Mr Hobbs.
- 5 MR HOBBS: Yes.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: You said Sony reminds us, recent decision
- 7 reminds us that the program is understood to be code.
- 8 MR HOBBS: Yes.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: If we could get the reference for that at
- some point, just the reference, no need to turn it up.
- 11 MR HOBBS: I'm going to give it to you right now. Famous
- 12 last words. It's right that I should give it to you to
- go with the submission.
- Right, so in the reduced bundle that you asked for
- 15 it's tab 45. You asked only for the judgment of the
- 16 court to be included because this is one of those A and
- 17 B files.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 19 MR HOBBS: It is in fact very instructive to read the
- 20 Advocate General's opinion and to get that you will have
- 21 to go to the authorities bundle in full. But either way
- it's tab 45 for both and it's the last word on the
- 23 subject.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Which paragraph?
- 25 MR HOBBS: We have marked up -- we have sidelined in the

- 1 paragraphs that you have in your --
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: It's in those sidelines.
- 3 MR HOBBS: All sidelined; the relevant paragraphs are all
- 4 sidelined.
- 5 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: And it also may come to why the
- 6 submission you just made to us about Article 8, how that
- fits with Article 1(2) -- sorry, Article 1(2)(a) of
- 8 InfoSoc.
- 9 MR HOBBS: Perfectly; it fits perfectly. They each operate
- 10 within their own remit without prejudice to the
- 11 operation of the other. There's no coach and horses
- 12 here. None at all. And the reason there's no coach and
- 13 horse is that every time my learned friend wishes to use
- 14 the metaphor of a coach and horses being driven by the
- 15 InfoSoc claim for copyright protection driving into the
- 16 computer program directive, I can do it the other way
- 17 round. He's using the Computer Program Directive to
- drive a coach and horses into the InfoSoc Directive.
- 19 It's a meaningless metaphor; it doesn't help us at
- 20 all for analysis in the slightest. Once you have it
- 21 clearly in mind that these two legislative provisions
- 22 operate according to their true meaning and effect
- within their own domain, you have all you need to know
- and, relative to that, if you have my skeleton, can
- I ask you, please, to turn in there to paragraph 141,

- internal page number 44.
- 2 Could I ask you to look at what we have taken and
- 3 quoted from Funke Medien.
- 4 (Pause).
- 5 There is no way, none at all that this Tribunal can
- 6 accede to the argument that you have just been listening
- 7 to that you can evolve or synthesise or hybridise
- 8 a rule. With respect, you're bound to apply 4(2) of the
- 9 InfoSoc Directive. You notice that -- Articles 2 to 4
- of InfoSoc -- you can't alter any of the exceptions or
- 11 limitations by -- what shall I say -- judicial
- 12 creativity. Yes, good word, thank you. You can't do
- 13 it.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: So going back to the question, maybe this is
- 15 for Mr Riordan in due course. The question I was asking
- 16 about these, the clip art and the icons and so forth.
- 17 MR HOBBS: Yes.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: They are programs themselves; they are code.
- 19 MR HOBBS: Yes. Sitting --
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: They're both.
- 21 MR HOBBS: Sitting behind.
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: They're -- you've got code and they're
- 23 artistic works.
- 24 MR HOBBS: They are, and the answer comes out of the
- 25 paragraphs that are always cited for this by

- 1 Mr Justice Pumfrey in Navitaire. The software for that
- 2 purpose is scaffolding. He called it scaffolding; that
- 3 was the metaphor that he used in those paragraphs.
- 4 Another expression which is used is that they are
- 5 the chassis.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: They are embodied -- they're an embodiment of
- 7 the work. They're not the scaffolding of the work;
- 8 they're actually an embodiment of the work.
- 9 MR HOBBS: Without it you couldn't make it visible on the
- 10 screen. But that which you make visible on the screen
- is protected by InfoSoc copyright.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 13 MR HOBBS: That's it. And like it or not that's the law.
- It's not my fault. It's not your fault. That's the
- 15 law.
- 16 Now, please never forget that the first -- really
- 17 the first definitive case on this point was decided
- 18 before UsedSoft and that's the BSA case. And in your --
- 19 where is that? BSA is tab 25. Shall we turn it up?
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, that would be helpful.
- 21 MR HOBBS: It's in volume 2 of the authorities. It's called
- BSA because, as you can see, there's no human being I've
- ever met that can pronounce the name of the claimant in
- that case.
- 25 So I suppose I think in the interests of brevity.

- 1 I mean, the AG's opinion is to the same substantive
- effect. So, if I ask you to look at bundle page 696,
- 3 and we have sidelined the paragraphs.
- 4 (Pause)
- 5 I am asked to specifically refer you also to
- 6 paragraphs 40, 41, which are on page 485 of the Law
- 7 Report. I can't see what the page is in the bundle.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, this is my fault, but I'm still
- 9 a little bit confused. I'm thinking about paragraph 42.
- 10 As I understand a number of cases have said, if you copy
- 11 the graphic user interface without cite of the source
- 12 code or the object code that's not an infringement
- 13 copyright in the program.
- 14 MR HOBBS: That's correct.
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: But why is the user interface not a form of
- 16 expression with a computer program if every aspect of it
- is embodied in the computer program? So if I see the
- 18 computer program, I know what the graphic interface is,
- 19 I can produce it. So I just don't understand
- 20 paragraph 42.
- 21 MR HOBBS: Well, what shall I say? It's the law. It
- follows the interface for the reasons they have given.
- 23 Like it or not, doesn't constitute a form of expression
- of a computer program. Consequently can't be protected
- 25 specifically by copyright and computer program --

- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: I understand that.
- 2 MR HOBBS: You do.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Can't -- the last bit, it cannot be
- 4 protected, but it is the first bit.
- 5 MR HOBBS: But it can't be protected because it isn't what
- 6 it would need to be in order to constitute a computer
- 7 program. That's the graphic user interface.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: You can write various programs for the same
- 9 graphic, you say, interface, as I understand.
- 10 MR HOBBS: Yes.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: But the graphic user interface is recorded
- and encapsulated by the computer program, just not in
- 13 all embodiments of it. Have I understood that?
- Mr Riordan is nodding. I don't have it completely
- wrong.
- 16 MR HOBBS: No, you don't have it completely wrong, and
- I have a note as well. Because it is an interface that
- is what takes it out of being a program.
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Well, it's both a program and the artistic
- 20 work --
- 21 MR HOBBS: No, it's not a program. It's not a program.
- 22 It's if you like, it's more than a program.
- 23 THE CHAIRMAN: More than a program. I understand.
- 24 MR HOBBS: Is that right? It's more than a program.
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: That I understand.

- 1 MR HOBBS: And the bit about it being more than a program
- leads to the conclusion that you can protect it under
- 3 the InfoSoc Directive because it's more than a program.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, understood.
- 5 MR HOBBS: So it's another reason for saying it's not all or
- 6 nothing. Has to be one, not the other.
- 7 Another comment, if I can make it at the general
- 8 level at this point, is that there were interchanges
- 9 between the bench and my learned friend on the subject
- of the licence. So I'm back to the concept of the
- 11 licence, which UsedSoft, when it's a perpetual licence,
- 12 requires you to conceptualise into a sale, a transfer.
- So it's perpetual. It's for a lump sum of money. Maybe
- phased, but nevertheless it's for a lump sum of money,
- 15 and that licence is elevated to -- as a fully integrated
- 16 transaction into the nature of a sale by analogy because
- it isn't, in the same sense, a delivery in the same way
- that you would deliver a physical thing. It's a
- analogised, so the process is treated as being
- 20 tantamount to the transfer of a widget.
- 21 Now, that is an expression of the exhaustion rule.
- But forgive me if I caution you with the proposition
- that you cannot digress into questions of licence beyond
- exhaustion, and here's why:
- 25 Exhaustion is the extinction of a legal right. In

the relevant case, it's the distribution right in the protected subject matter.

If there is extinction under one directive or the other directive, depending on the subject matter, then there is. It is an all together separate question of whether the transaction by the means of which that occurred involved any further, other or supplementary or licensing arrangements because that is not what we're discussing here.

The whole of the claim for damages on the other side in this case is erected upon the legal right which they claim to have acquired under 4(2) of the Software Directive as interpreted by UsedSoft for the purposes of saying that legal right opens up a market with all the consequences that they say harm diminution, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera.

The case has nothing to do with a claim for damages based on a refusal to licence, for example, or anything to do with a right to have a licence or a licensing practice. It has only to do with the question of the interpretation of the exhaustion rules. And that takes me back to my intervention earlier today when I said to you we're seeing this case through the lens of that exhaustion rule, that exhaustion rule and how the two interact, and I have just been discussing in the

- interaction. This -- I don't want to sound impertinent.
- 2 This court, this Tribunal has no power to alter those
- 3 rules, to blend them, to hybridise them. They apply to
- 4 the subject matter they apply to and that's it.
- Now, I'm going to give you my headline synopsis,
- 6 which will be my route map for tomorrow, if I may. So
- 7 let me just --
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: Before you get to your route map: do you
- 9 accept the point you submitted on Article 8 of the
- 10 Software Directive, where it says the provisions shall
- 11 be without prejudice to other legal provisions, you said
- 12 that would include the InfoSoc Directive --
- 13 MR HOBBS: Yes.
- 14 MR LYKIARDOUPOLOUS: -- we should, however, read that,
- 15 should we not, in accordance with recital 16. Do you
- 16 accept that? Which says --
- 17 MR HOBBS: I'm just turning that up.
- 18 MR LYKIARDOPOULOS: The protection of computer programs
- should be without prejudice to the application in
- 20 appropriate cases of other forms of protection.
- 21 Whereas in the InfoSoc Directive, Article 1.2A says
- 22 that the InfoSoc Directive shall in no way affect
- computer programs.
- 24 Do you accept there is a difference there between
- 25 the way the two are working?

- 1 MR HOBBS: Not in substance. The end result is the same.
- 2 Each operates without prejudice to the other and 16 is
- 3 foreshadowing what is in fact -- and probably
- 4 foreshadowing what's in the second half of Article 8,
- 5 any contractual provisions contrary to Article 6. So
- 6 what you have is a -- what you have is a general saving
- 7 relative to which you have a specific exception and you
- 8 interpret the general saving according to its tenor
- 9 without prejudice to.
- 10 While I have this point, in my learned friend's
- skeleton, the main skeleton, in paragraph 42, and you
- 12 see what they say there:
- "Digital server of a works subject to the
- 14 Software Directive may give rise to exhaustion ...
- 15 UsedSoft. For works subject to the InfoSoc Directive it
- is only sales of physical copies of the work which will
- give rise to exhaustion under its Article 4(2)."
- 18 Quite so. Quite so. That's my case.
- 19 And I like that number 42 because anyone that is of
- 20 an era knows it's the answer to life, the universe and
- 21 everything as calculated by the enormous supercomputer
- Deep Thought over 7.5 million years in the Hitchhiker's
- 23 Guide to the Galaxy. But I digress.
- So, to summarise my route map, five points. I'm not
- 25 chiselling them in stone; I'm giving them to you as

a guide. I'm going to start with this: the law

according to my submissions -- so this is UsedSoft and

everything that runs down through it -- stands for this:

the second acquirer -- and note my emphasis -- the

second acquirer can by transfer step into the shoes of

the first acquirer. No more, no less. That's the

effect, we say, of the applicable rule.

1.3

- Next proposition: the first acquirer cannot, still less can VL, step into the shoes of the rightholder and re-organise the configuration, the first sale to the first acquirer. That is the rightholder's prerogative and it's not the prerogative of anybody downstream under the exhaustion rule to step up and alter the configuration of the arrangement.
 - It's very clear -- this is my third point -- that the rightholder retains the right to use all technical means, especially product keys at his disposal, to ensure compliance with those basic precepts that I have just given you.
 - My fourth point is the one I have already made, but I will say it again: Article 1(2) of the InfoSoc Directive and Article 8 of the Software Directive mandate parallel protection, each without prejudice to the other. They mandate it. It's not optional; it's obligatory.

- 1 And then my last point is: a work which is not
- 2 a computer program -- because I'm now into the
- 3 Software Directive, as I still have to call it for its
- friends -- it's not a program for the purposes of
- 5 Article 4(2) of that directive.
- 6 And a digital copy of a non-program of work is not
- 7 an object for the purposes of Article 4(2) of InfoSoc.
- 8 And I have just shown you paragraph 42 of my opponent's
- 9 skeleton in which they agree with that proposition.
- 10 Would it be a convenient moment, sir, to collect my
- 11 thoughts?
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 13 MR HOBBS: May I just say that, based on some submissions
- 14 you've heard, there is an authority I will need to bring
- 15 tomorrow. Is there a procedure for introducing it or
- can I bring a hard copy?
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: If you need us to read it in advance,
- obviously send it to us. But, otherwise, just bring
- 19 hard copies in the morning.
- 20 MR HOBBS: Thank you. I will send it to you via the
- 21 registrar.
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. And we should have electronic copies
- 23 anyway. But if you could bring copies to hand up, as
- 24 well.
- 25 MR HOBBS: I will bring it with me in the morning to

1	discuss.
2	MR LAVY: Can I ask: if there are going to be more
3	authorities, if we know what they are, could we have
4	them as soon as
5	MR HOBBS: Yes, it's a case called Oracle v M-Tech in the
6	Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, which explains that
7	when you have provisions such as we're looking at here
8	you don't go back to Article 36 or any of the higher
9	provisions; the legislation is taken to implement the
10	legal policy required for the purposes of all the free
11	movement rules, et cetera.
12	(4.19 pm)
13	(The hearing adjourned until 10.30 am on Wednesday,
14	10 September 2025)
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