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GPO PRODUCES LARGEST *FEDERAL REGISTER*

Issue Contains Public Comments on Microsoft Settlement

The *Federal Register* issued for Friday, May 3, 2002, is perhaps the largest single issue of that publication since its origin in 1936. The 12-volume, 20 pound *Register* owes its unusual bulk to the inclusion of the public comments received by the Department of Justice on the proposed United States v. Microsoft Corporation settlement. Eleven of the volumes consist of those public comments, most transmitted to the U.S. Department of Justice by e-mail. As required by the Department of Justice, the materials were published exactly as they were received. The 12th volume (actually the first in the set) consists of the regular *Register* material for the day.

Manuscript for the mammoth job was provided to the Government Printing Office in both paper and electronic formats on March 28. The paper manuscript consisted of 11 cardboard cartons of typescript. The electronic format manuscript was tagged and converted to drive GPO's typesetting system, and the 43,394 galley proof pages that it produced were proofread against the paper manuscript to assure accuracy. When made up into pages, the job required 6,654 of the *Federal Register's* 3-column pages, or 11 books of 512 to 640 pages each. The regular material for May 3 required 184 pages, producing a total page count of 6,838 for the day's issue.

In addition to the print edition, GPO is committed to providing an electronic edition of the *Federal Register* on its Web site, **GPO Access** (www.gpo.gov/gpoaccess), beginning at 6:00 am (eastern time) each day the *Register* is published. Being able to include the 11-volume part of May 3 issue was an important goal, and one that also required substantial preparation and advance planning to assure that both of the usual HTML and PDF formats would

be available. As a result of this effort, all 12 volumes of the issue were available in both formats when the issue went live online at 6:00 am on May 3.

Published by the National Archives and Records Administration, the *Federal Register* is issued every business day. The *Federal Register* provides official public notice of proposed and final rules issued by the departments and agencies of the U.S. Government, and includes information about opportunities for public comments relative to Federal rulemaking and other matters of public interest. Federal departments and agencies are required to publish information about new regulations, and changes to existing regulation, in the *Federal Register*.

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