GATES WILLIAM H III Form SC 13G/A February 17, 2009

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

#### SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. 16)\*

# MICROSOFT CORPORATION

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, \$0.00000625 par value per share

(Title of Class of Securities)

#### 59418104

(CUSIP Number)

**December 31, 2008** 

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- o Rule 13d-1(b)
- o Rule 13d-1(c)
- x Rule 13d-1(d)

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be filed for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ( Act ) or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

<sup>\*</sup>The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person s initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

## CUSIP No. 594918104

12.

IN

1.	Names of Reporting Persons. William H. Gates III		
2.	Check the Appropriate Box if a (a) (b)	a Member of a Group (See o o	Instructions)
3.	SEC Use Only		
4.	Citizenship or Place of Organization United States of America		
	5.		Sole Voting Power 773,132,479
Number of Shares Beneficially Owned by	6.		Shared Voting Power -0-
Each Reporting Person With	7.		Sole Dispositive Power 773,132,479
	8.		Shared Dispositive Power -0-
9.	Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person 773,132,479		
10.	Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions) o		
11.	Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9) 8.7%		

Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)

2

Item 1.		
	(a)	Name of Issuer
		Microsoft Corporation (the Issuer )
	(b)	Address of Issuer s Principal Executive Offices
		One Microsoft Way, Redmond, Washington 98052
Item 2.		
	(a)	Name of Person Filing
		William H. Gates III
	(b)	Address of Principal Business Office or, if none, Residence
		One Microsoft Way, Redmond, Washington 98052
	(c)	Citizenship
		United States of America
	(d)	Title of Class of Securities
		Common Stock, \$0.00000625 par value per share ( Common Stock )
	(e)	CUSIP Number
		594918104
Item 3.	If this statement is filed pursuant a: Not applicable.	to §§240.13d-1(b) or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is

### Item 4. Ownership

Provide the following information regarding the aggregate number and percentage of the class of securities of the issuer identified in Item 1.

(a) Amount beneficially owned:

See the response to Item 9 on the attached cover page.

(b) Percent of class:

See the response to Item 11 on the attached cover page.

(c) Number of shares as to which the person has:

(i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote

See the response to Item 5 on the attached cover page.

(ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote

See the response to Item 6 on the attached cover page.

(iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of

See the response to Item 7 on the attached cover page.

(iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of

See the response to Item 8 on the attached cover page.

#### Item 5. Ownership of 5 Percent or Less of a Class

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than 5 percent of the class of securities, check the following O.

Item 6. Ownership of More than 5 Percent on Behalf of Another Person

Not applicable.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being

Reported on By the Parent Holding Company

Not applicable.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group

Not applicable.

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group

Not applicable.

Item 10. Certification

Not applicable.

4

### Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: February 13, 2009

#### WILLIAM H. GATES III

By /s/Michael Larson

Name: Michael Larson\* Title: Attorney-in-fact

<sup>\*</sup> Duly authorized under Special Power of Attorney appointing Michael Larson attorney-in-fact, dated February 3, 2006, by and on behalf of William H. Gates III, filed as Exhibit 99.1 to Cascade Investment, L.L.C. s Amendment No. 2 to Schedule 13G with respect to Arch Capital Group Ltd. on March 7, 2006, SEC File No. 005-45257, and incorporated by reference herein.