Microsoft saved $4.5 billion in federal income taxes from 2009 - 2011 by shifting profits to a subsidiary in the tax haven of Puerto Rico.

Microsoft had $60.8 billion in profits stashed offshore in 2012 on which it paid no U.S. taxes. Microsoft says it would owe Uncle Sam $19.4 billion if it brings the profits home. Its untaxed profits increased a whopping $16 billion, or 36% over the last year.

Microsoft appears to pay more than its fair share of taxes but that’s deceiving. It had profits of $20 billion and paid $9.8 billion in federal income taxes from 2010 to 2012. This apparent 49% effective tax rate is deceiving since Microsoft has mastered the art of turning sales on products developed and sold in the U.S. into profits booked in a tax haven like Puerto Rico. By moving these profits offshore, Microsoft keeps its U.S. profits artificially low, and its reported tax rate way overstated.

Microsoft’s CEO is a leader in calling for cuts to government spending and increases in the Social Security retirement age, while pressing for more corporate tax cuts. He can afford it, as he owns Microsoft stock valued at more than $9.5 billion. The average Social Security retiree gets a monthly check of just $1,265.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT MICROSOFT’S TAX DODGING AND TO VIEW THE DATA SOURCES GO HERE:

http://www.americansfortaxfairness.org/tradingcards/

CORPORATE TAX DODGER TRADING CARDS