Huawei: Android Woes, RISC-V and Jolla's Sailfish OS

By *Roy Schestowitz*
Created *01/09/2019 - 12:06pm*
Submitted by Roy Schestowitz on Sunday 1st of September 2019 12:06:00 PM Filed under OS [1] Android [2]

- **Huawei to push ahead with flagship phone launch ? with or without Google services**[3]

  > Huawei will launch a new flagship phone next month which may not come with Google apps, a source with direct knowledge of the matter told CNBC, as the Chinese firm faces being blocked from accessing the search giant's software.

  > The Mate 30 will be showcased at a September 19 launch event in Munich, Germany, the source said. It will be powered by Huawei's latest processor called the Kirin 990 which is yet to be unveiled. The Mate 30 will be able to connect to next-generation mobile networks known as 5G which promise super-fast data speeds.

  > Huawei is pushing ahead with the launch despite being on a U.S. blacklist known as the Entity List. It restricts American firms from doing business with the Chinese company. But the tech giant has been given another 90-day reprieve under which U.S. firms can apply for special licenses to sell to Huawei.

  > Google is subject to these restrictions. Huawei relies on Google's Android operating system to power its smartphones. In China, Huawei uses a modified version of Android which is stripped of Google services like Gmail or Maps because those are blocked in the country. Instead, it pre-loads its own apps. But in international markets, those Google services are pre-loaded on Huawei phones.

- **Huawei Mate 30 can?t launch with official Google apps, says Google**[4]

Huawei may face a major roadblock for its next flagship phone, the Mate 30 ? it won?t be able to launch with Google apps and services due to the White House banning US companies (like Google) from doing business with the Chinese telecommunications firm, according to a report from Reuters.

That means that the Mate 30 ? and presumably, other upcoming devices like the now-delayed foldable Mate X ? could be severely limited at launch. They?ll still run Android, which is at its core open-source software that?s freely available. But Google has confirmed to The Verge that the Mate 30 and Mate 30 Pro (rumored to launch on September 18th) won?t be able to ship with Google?s apps and services on board, which could put them at a severe disadvantage given how important Google?s apps are.

- **Huawei Seeks Independence From the US With RISC-V and Ascend Chips**[5]

  Huawei has launched its 7nm Ascend 910 artificial intelligence chip for data centers together with a new comprehensive AI framework MindSpore. The announcement comes at a time when Huawei is facing pressure from the US government, which Huawei is responding to by considering using the open-source RISC-V.

- **Huawei using Sailfish OS fork on tablets for Russian census project**[6]

  Embattled Chinese electronics manufacturer Huawei is planning to ship a Russian variant of Jolla's Sailfish OS on 360,000 tablets intended for use in conducting the Russian population census, according to a Reuters report published Monday.

  This project comes as Huawei is looking for alternatives to Android, following their placement on the "Entity List" by the US government, effectively blacklisting the company from acquiring US-origin technology for use in their own products. This blacklisting does not affect Huawei's ability to use the public, open-source AOSP repository. It does prevent use of Google Play services, through which vital APIs for Google Maps integration in apps is provided?as well as the Play Store, the default Android app store.

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