

CeBIT: Ubuntu smartphones to cost between \$200 and \$400

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Smartphones on Canonical's Ubuntu operating system will cost between \$200 and \$400, according to the firm's chief executive Mark Shuttleworth.

Speaking at CeBIT, he said: "Ours will come out in the mid-higher edge, so \$200 to \$400. We're going with the higher end because we want people who are looking for a very sharp, beautiful experience and because our ambition is to be selling the future PC, the future personal computing engine."

The Ubuntu project aims to produce hardware that can act as a smartphone and also work as a PC when plugged into a monitor, something Shuttleworth said many audiences found attractive.

Canonical teamed up with phone makers Meizu and BQ earlier this year to produce the devices, following what Shuttleworth called the "spectacular failure" of the firm's efforts to raise \$32m for the Ubuntu Edge smartphone. But he also called it a "spectacular success" because of the amount of attention it drew and the influence it could have on the industry.

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