

Google Gets Ready For The Next Version of Android

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(PhysOrg.com) -- Android 1.5 is right around the corner and this version promises better camera and GPS performance, support for video recording and Bluetooth stereo. Also included in this new version is support for soft keyboards, live folders and speech recognition.

Software developers will have the option to target different Android platform versions from within a single SDK installation. Developers will also find improvements to install Android SDK add-ons to access extended functionality that might be provided by OEMs, carriers, or other providers.

In order to help developers prepare their applications for the release of Android 1.5 on phones, [Google](#) will be publishing a series of articles on their [Android Developers Blog](#) to highlight new APIs and other changes. In addition to the new APIs, other topics that will be covered include OpenGL, asynchronous tasks, system settings, and new Activity callbacks.

From a user perspective, some improvement performances include faster camera start-up and image capture, faster acquisition of GPS location (powered by SUPL AGPS), smoother page scrolling in Browser, and speedier GMail conversation list scrolling.

At present there are only two phones based on the open-source operating system. The HTC Dream (T-Mobile G1) and Vodafone's HTC Magic. Samsung will be launching three Android phones this year; however release dates from [Android](#) supporters LG, Motorola and Sony Ericsson are not clear.

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