

Oracle CEO mulled expansion into smartphones

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Oracle CEO Larry Ellison arrives for a court appearance at a federal building in San Francisco, Tuesday, April 17, 2012. Oracle intends to rely heavily on Google's own internal emails to prove Google's top executives knew they were stealing a popular piece of technology to build the Android software that now powers more than 300 million smartphones and tablet computers. (AP Photo/Paul Sakuma)

(AP) -- Oracle CEO Larry Ellison says he wanted to compete against Google's Android software in the smartphone market before deciding to sue his potential rival instead.

Ellison acknowledged Oracle's interest in expanding into smartphones while testifying Tuesday in a trial before a jury that will decide the case that Oracle brought against Google.

The outspoken CEO took the stand shortly after a [Google Inc.](#) lawyer argued [Oracle Corp.](#) launched its legal assault on Android primarily because it couldn't develop its own mobile software.

Ellison testified that he decided against going into smartphones because he concluded it was a bad fit for Oracle, which specializes in database software.

The showdown revolves around Oracle's allegations that Android infringes on the patents and copyrights that Oracle acquired in 2010 when it bought Sun Microsystems.

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