

Google lodges Nokia, Microsoft complaint with EU

June 4 2012



The camera of a street-view car is seen at the Google street-view stand at a high-tech fair. The US Internet giant has said it has lodged a complaint with European Union competition authorities against Finland's Nokia and its US software peer Microsoft.

US Internet giant Google said on Monday it has lodged a complaint with European Union competition authorities against Finland's Nokia and its US software peer Microsoft.

The complaint, lodged last week in line with action in the United States, alleges collusion between Nokia and Microsoft in order to increase prices for smartphones and tablets.

"Nokia and Microsoft are colluding to raise the costs of mobile devices

for consumers, creating patent 'trolls' that side-step promises both companies have made," a [Google](#) statement said.

"They should be held accountable and we hope our complaint spurs others to look into these practices."

Google charged a Canadian company, Mosaid, with being behind some 2,000 "patent trolls" -- legal complaints that are so costly to defend against that they often succeed in preventing change on markets.

This type of tactic is particularly prevalent in the pharmaceuticals industry where development costs for new treatments can be enormous.

Earlier this month, EU anti-trust chiefs asked Google to offer remedies quickly to concerns that the company has abused its [dominant position](#) in the Internet [search market](#) -- or else face heavy penalties.

(c) 2012 AFP

Citation: Google lodges Nokia, Microsoft complaint with EU (2012, June 4) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2012-06-google-lodges-nokia-microsoft-complaint.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--