

Taiwan university sues Apple over iPhone patents

July 30 2012



Apple's Senior Vice President of iOS Scott Forstall speaks about the iPhone voice recognition app Siri in California in 2011. Taiwan's National Cheng Kung University has filed a suit against US tech giant Apple, claiming the company's Siri intelligent assistant has infringed on two of its patents.

Taiwan's National Cheng Kung University has filed a suit against US tech giant Apple, claiming the company's Siri intelligent assistant has infringed on two of its patents.

Apple introduced the voice-activated assistant technology when launching the [iPhone 4S](#) in 2011.

But Cheng Kung University in south Taiwan's Tainan city said the technology infringes two patents held by one of its research teams, both

related to speech recognition.

The team is led by Wang Jhing-fa, a professor who specialises in chip designs and neural networks facilitating speech and pattern recognition.

"We filed a lawsuit against Apple at a Federal district court in Texas Friday," Yama Chen, a legal affairs manager at the university, told AFP.

Apple Taiwan was not immediately available for comment.

Earlier this month, [Chinese technology](#) firm Shanghai Zhizhen Network Technology Co Ltd filed a similar claim against Apple over [Siri](#).

The company's Xiao i Robot software, patented in 2004, operates in a similar way to Apple's personal assistant and works on the iOS and Android operating systems.

Greater China -- which includes Hong Kong and Taiwan -- has become Apple's fastest-growing region, with revenues second only to the United States.

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Citation: Taiwan university sues Apple over iPhone patents (2012, July 30) retrieved 4 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2012-07-taiwan-university-sues-apple-iphone.html>

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