

Apple pays Swiss rail \$21mn over clock dispute, report says

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Visitors are silhouetted against a giant railway clock at the Swiss railway (SBB, CFF, FFS) stand at the Innotrans 2012 International Trade Fair for Transport and Mobility in Berlin in September 2012. US tech giant Apple has dished out \$21 million to compensate Swiss national rail operator SBB for using its famous clock without permission, a Swiss daily reported.

US tech giant Apple has dished out 20 million Swiss francs (\$21 million, 17 million euros) to compensate Swiss national rail operator SBB for

using its famous clock without permission, a Swiss daily reported Saturday.

The company agreed in October to pay the lump sum so it could continue using SBB's Swiss-designed station [clock](#) face on its [iPads](#) and iPhones, the Tages-Anzeiger daily reported on its website, quoting several unnamed sources.

When contacted by AFP, SBB refused Saturday to confirm the report.

The rail operator's spokeswoman Patricia Claivaz however told AFP in September SBB was preparing to meet with [Apple](#) to discuss why the company had begun using the famous clock on one of its new applications for iOS 6 without authorisation.

She said at the time that SBB was more interested in bringing clarity to where and how Apple could use the logo than in raking in cash.

"We're rather proud that a brand as important as Apple is using our design," she said in September.

The clock was designed in 1944 by Swiss engineer Hans Hilfiker and remains the property of SBB. It is still used in SBB's stations.

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