

Samsung sells 3 mn Galaxy Note II smartphones since debut

November 2 2012



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The South Korean electronics giant said sales of the gadget—sold in



some 100 nations—grew far faster than its predecessor and would likely be more than three times those of the Galaxy Note in the first three months after launch.

Samsung—the world's top <u>smartphone</u> maker—sold about two million Galaxy Note phones in the three months after its debut last November.

Galaxy Note II—about 15.1 centimetres long (5.9 inches) and 8 centimetres wide—is slightly bigger than the firm's flagship smartphone Galaxy S series and comes with a stylus to write notes or draw on the screen.

"It means the new product category we pioneered has successfully established itself among global consumers at last," the firm said in a statement, adding sales in the US, Europe and Asia were growing rapidly.

Samsung's rival Apple Friday launched sales of its new iPad mini in Asia including South Korea, Japan and Australia, entering the market for mobile devices sized somewhere between smartphones and tablet PCs.

The iPad mini's touchscreen measures 7.9 inches (20 centimetres) diagonally compared to 9.7 inches on the original iPad.

The two tech giants have been embroiled in a long-running patent battle in 10 countries, including the United States and Germany, with the pair accusing each other of stealing designs and technology.

In August Samsung was ordered to pay Apple \$1.05 billion in damages for illegally copying <u>iPhone</u> and iPad features for its Galaxy S smartphones, but a Japanese court later rejected Apple's claim that Samsung stole its technology.



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