

Samsung says to drop Europe case against Apple

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A logo of Samsung Electronics is seen on the glass door of its showroom in Seoul on April 27, 2012. South Korean tech giant Samsung is to drop a legal request to ban Apple products in five European countries but will maintain lawsuits for alleged patent infringement, a Samsung spokeswoman told AFP on Tuesday.

South Korean tech giant Samsung is to drop a legal request to ban Apple products in five European countries but will maintain lawsuits for alleged patent infringement, a Samsung spokeswoman told AFP on

Tuesday.

The five countries concerned are Britain, France, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands, she added.

A Samsung statement said the South Korean group "strongly believes it is better when companies compete fairly in the marketplace, rather than in court."

"In this spirit, Samsung has decided to withdraw our injunction requests against Apple on the basis of our standard essential patents pending in European courts, in the interest of protecting consumer choice," it added.

Apple and Samsung have filed lawsuits against each other in around a dozen countries for alleged patent violations related to competing products, in particular the [iPhone](#) and Galaxy S smartphones, as well as [tablet computers](#).

A US judge Monday denied Apple's request to ban a set of Samsung smartphones from the US market after a jury found the South Korean electronics titan guilty of [patent infringement](#).

Samsung—the world's top mobile and smartphone maker—was ordered by a US jury in August to pay Apple \$1.05 billion (800 million euros) in damages for illegally copying iPhone and iPad features for its flagship Galaxy S phones.

Samsung has appealed the ruling.

Since then, two separate rulings by courts in Japan and the Netherlands have dismissed Apple's claims of patent infringement.

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