

Huawei to launch first Windows 8 phone in US

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Huawei's Ascend W1 smartphone with Windows 8 is on display at the 2013 International CES on January 9, 2013 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Chinese tech giant Huawei said Thursday it would launch its first Windows Phone 8 smartphone for US users later this month

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The W1 phone is a version of the Ascend W1 sold in other markets, according to Microsoft.

The device will be sold at Wal-Mart stores under a no-contract plan. Prices were not announced.

"We are proud to deliver a premium smartphone experience to customers at a competitive price point," said Todd Greenberg, general manager for US [Windows Phone](#) sales at Microsoft.

Michael Chuang at [Huawei](#) Device USA said the new phone "brings consumers a truly compelling alternative to what's currently in the marketplace—a device that is competitively priced."

Microsoft's Windows Phone platform has been making slow progress breaking into a smartphone market dominated by [Google](#)'s Android and Apple's iOS.

Huawei has limited smartphone sales in the US market, but is a major vendor in China and some other markets.

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