

Huawei phone is so big it can charge other phones

January 6 2014, by Peter Svensson



Huawei Consumer Business Group CEO Richard Yu discusses features of the Ascend Mate 2 4G smartphone during the International Consumer Electronics Show, Monday, Jan. 6, 2014, in Las Vegas. (AP Photo/Julie Jacobson)

Huawei, China's largest cellphone manufacturer, is releasing a phone that

can be thought of as the inflight refueling system of the mobile world: it can be used to recharge other phones.

The Ascend Mate2 has a 6.1-inch (15.5-centimeter) screen, making it more than twice as big as an iPhone 5. It's almost the size of a tablet, giving rise to the half-joking term "phablet." It's the successor to a [phone](#) of the same size launched last year.

The first Ascend Mate was not sold in the U.S., but Huawei CEO Richard Yu, speaking at a press conference in Las Vegas ahead of the opening of the International Consumer Electronics Show, said the Mate2 would reach U.S. shores. He didn't say when or what it would cost. The phone is compatible with all U.S. networks, but he didn't say which carriers would sell it.

The huge size of the Ascend Mate provides space for a large [battery](#), with roughly three times the amount of energy stored in an iPhone battery. Huawei claims it will last for 3.5 days of "normal" usage, or half that for heavy usage. Through a USB port, this battery can be used to charge smaller phones.



Huawei Consumer Business Group CEO Richard Yu discusses photo capabilities of the Ascend Mate 2 4G smartphone during the 2014 Consumer Electronics Show, Monday, Jan. 6, 2014, in Las Vegas. (AP Photo/Julie Jacobson)

Huawei Technologies Ltd. was the third-largest cellphone manufacturer in the world in the third quarter of last year, according to research group IDC. However, it has few products on the U.S. market, and is little known there. Huawei 's attempts to sell network equipment to U.S. phone companies have been stymied by concerns that the company's products could contain "back doors" that allow for spying on U.S. communications, something the company denies.



Huawei Consumer Business Group CEO Richard Yu holds up the Ascend Mate 2 4G smartphone at a news conference during the International Consumer Electronics Show, Monday, Jan. 6, 2014, in Las Vegas. (AP Photo/Julie Jacobson)



Models hold the Huawei Ascend Mate 2 smartphone after a press conference during the International Consumer Electronics Show, Monday, Jan. 6, 2014, in Las Vegas. (AP Photo/Julie Jacobson)



The Huawei Ascend Mate 2 4G smartphone is on display during the International Consumer Electronics Show, Monday, Jan. 6, 2014, in Las Vegas. (AP Photo/Julie Jacobson)

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