

US regulators probe Google's Android: report

September 25 2015



US regulators are launching an anti-competition probe into Google's Android operating system, the software that runs most of the world's smartphones, Bloomberg News said Friday.

The Federal Trade Commission has agreed with the US Justice

Department that it will lead the investigation, Bloomberg said, citing two people familiar with the matter who were not identified.

Rival technology companies allege that Google gives priority to its own services on Android while restricting those of competitors, the report said.

The probe was at a preliminary stage and could yet end without a case against Google, Bloomberg said.

Contacted by AFP, Google and the FTC declined to comment.

"FTC investigations are non-public and we do not comment on an investigation or the existence of an investigation," and FTC spokesman said.

Android runs more than 80 percent of the world's smartphones, according to International Data Corp., and it usually comes bundled with Google applications including an Internet browser, email and maps.

The US Federal Trade Commission has had Google in its sights before.

In 2013, the regulator said it had no legal case against Google after an 18-month probe into allegations it had engaged in anti-competitive abuse of its dominance in Internet searches.

The commission said it had secured commitments from Google to end its "most troubling practices."

© 2015 AFP

Citation: US regulators probe Google's Android: report (2015, September 25) retrieved 26 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2015-09-probe-google-android.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.