Microsoft Office coming to Nokia mobiles
12 August 2009

Microsoft Office Mobile to Nokia smartphone owners worldwide and allow them to collaborate on Office documents from anywhere," he said.

Microsoft and Nokia said the agreement will allow Nokia smartphone users to view, edit, create and share Office documents and use such popular Microsoft programs as Word, PowerPoint and Excel.

"Together with Microsoft, we will develop new and innovative user experiences for employees of small and large businesses alike," said Kai Oistamo, Nokia's executive vice president for devices.

Microsoft and Nokia both stressed their commitment to their rival mobile telephone operating systems, Windows Mobile and Symbian.

"Nokia and Microsoft do compete in some areas and we will continue to do so," said Elop. "At Microsoft we remain deeply committed to Windows Mobile."

Oistamo emphasized his company's commitment to Symbian and said Microsoft's productivity applications will add "tremendous value to Symbian."

Asked whether the tie-up was intended to counter the growing popularity of Apple's iPhone, Oistamo said it was aimed more at the Blackberry, a favorite of office workers made by Canada's RIM.

"It is really about creating a formidable challenge for RIM rather than anybody else," he said.

Nokia is the world's leading manufacturer of mobile phones and holds a 45 percent share of the smartphone market according to research firm Gartner.

But the Finnish company has been facing increased competition in the smartphone business from the iPhone and Blackberry.
Microsoft also faces competition in the cellphone operating system sector from Google's open-source Android software and free Web-based programs.

Microsoft shares were up 1.99 percent to 23.59 dollars at midday in New York while Nokia gained 1.22 percent to 13.24 dollars.

(c) 2009 AFP


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.