

Dell loses Taiwan consumer lawsuit: report

June 6 2010



Visitors walk around the Dell stand at the world's biggest high-tech fair, the CeBIT in March, in the northern German city of Hanover. A group of Taiwanese consumers have won a lawsuit forcing US computer giant Dell to honour bargains the firm says it offered in error on the Internet, it has been reported.

A group of Taiwanese consumers have won a lawsuit forcing US computer giant Dell to honour bargains the firm says it offered in error on the Internet, it was reported Sunday.

A court in southern Taiwan last week ordered the firm to deliver 18 laptops and 76 flat-panel monitors to 31 consumers for 490,000 Taiwan dollars (15,120 US), less than a third of the normal price, the Taipei-based Apple Daily said.

Dell will be allowed to appeal the decision -- its first setback after victories in seven identical cases, the report said.

The company advertised the unusually low prices on its website in June and July, prompting bargain-hunters to place 200,000 orders.

In the July incident, the company's Latitude E4300 [notebook](#), which usually sells for 60,900 Taiwan dollars, appeared online at 18,558 Taiwan dollars, the daily said.

Dell has apologised in a statement on its Taiwanese website and offered a voucher of up to 20,000 Taiwan dollars a customer in compensation.

But the gesture has failed to appease [consumers](#) angered by the company withdrawing the offer.

The consumer rights authorities in Taipei has fined Dell one million Taiwan dollars for customer rights infringements.

[Dell](#) was not immediately reachable for comment.

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Citation: Dell loses Taiwan consumer lawsuit: report (2010, June 6) retrieved 21 September 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2010-06-dell-taiwan-consumer-lawsuit.html>

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