

# Apple's bid to stop sales of Samsung products denied

SAN FRANCISCO, USA: A judge has rejected a bid by Apple to ban US sales of rival Samsung smartphones targeted in a recent \$2bn patent trial in Silicon Valley.



Apple has been awarded damages of almost \$120m in its legal dispute with Samsung – just a fraction of the more than \$2bn it claimed in its application to the US District Court for patent infringements. Image: [Phone Arena](#)

The decision was seen as a setback for Apple in its long-running battle with Samsung over features built into Android-powered mobile devices that compete worldwide with iPhones and iPads.

Apple requested an injunction against Samsung's Galaxy mobile devices after a patent trial that ended with a mixed verdict in May.

Jurors awarded \$119.6m in damages to Apple.

While the amount of the award is huge, it is only a fraction of the more than \$2bn Apple had sought to gain the outset of the case.

"Apple's cited evidence indicates that Samsung paid close attention to, and tried to incorporate, certain iPhone features," US District Court Judge Lucy Koh said in a written ruling denying an injunction.

"While indicative of copying by Samsung, this evidence alone does not establish that the infringing features drove customer demand for Samsung's smartphones and tablets," she said.

## No significant harm to Apple

"Apple has not established that it suffered significant harm in the form of either lost sales or reputational injury," Koh said in her latest ruling.

"Moreover, Apple has not shown that it suffered any of these alleged harms because Samsung infringed Apple's patents," she added.

Patents at issue in the case involve unlocking touchscreens with slide gestures, automatically correcting words being typed, retrieving data sought by users and performing actions on found data such as making a call after coming up with a phone number.

Samsung devices targeted by Apple included more than half a dozen smartphones from the Galaxy line, along with the Galaxy 2 tablet.

Jurors agreed that Samsung violated three of five Apple patents at issue in the two-month-long trial.

Jurors also found that Apple violated a Samsung patent and said Apple should pay its rival \$158,400 in damages.

In August 2012, a separate jury in the same court decided that Samsung should pay Apple \$1.049bn in damages for illegally copying iPhone and iPad features, in one of the biggest patent cases in decades.

The damage award was later trimmed to \$929m and is being appealed.



Judge Lucy Koh has found that Apple did not suffer significant harm from the alleged copying of its iPhone and was not prepared to grant a decree banning sales of Galaxy phones in the USA. Image: Wikipedia

Samsung and Apple decided earlier this month to drop all patent disputes outside the United States.

Both companies have been locked in a three-year battle of litigative attrition in close to a dozen countries, with each accusing the other of infringing various patents related to their flagship smartphone and tablet products.

But neither has managed to deliver a knock-out blow with a number of rulings going different ways, and the partial ceasefire suggested a line was being drawn.

Apple has accused its South Korean rival of massive and wilful copying of its designs and technology for smartphones and tablets.

Samsung has counter-claimed that Apple had used some of its technology without permission.

Source: AFP via I-Net Bridge

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