

The iPhone Could Have Been a Linux Machine

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The ongoing Tony Fadell/ Mark Papermaster law-court shuffle is far outside of the Gadget Lab coverage zone), but one fascinating fact has emerged from the dust storm of speculation: Fadell, the Father of the iPod, wanted to make a Linux-based iPhone. How do you think Steve Jobs took that one?

In a footnote to his article on the "Executive Scuttlebutt" going on at Apple, Daring Fireball's John Gruber details the origins of the iPhone (yes, Gruber's footnotes are better than many people's full blog posts). There were two camps inside Apple. Fadell, who brought us the iPod and the iTunes Store, saw the iPhone as simply an iPod with a phone added. Here's Gruber's original footnote:

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