

Battle Of The OS Titans

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Apple versus Google versus Microsoft versus Linux has made for a rather dramatic operating system battle, particularly over the last six months. Fueled by a combination of developments, the operating system landscape is more complex-- and frankly more uncertain than ever.

Consider just a few recent developments that are impacting us today: Google announced this past summer that Chrome OS would be available in 2010, sparking speculation and excitement throughout the industry. Microsoft has been working overtime to assure the 90% of the market it does own that Windows 7 will indeed address all the Vista concerns. The iPhone had one of the most successful showings of any mobile device in its first year with 5.2 million units sold in the third quarter alone. And finally, in the face of economic pressures and shrinking IT budgets, reports show that Linux adoption is on the rise, especially on netbooks and mobile devices.

People have started to throw the term "operating system war" around rather lightly, but remember that not too long ago the thought of anyone other than Microsoft making a land grab was next to impossible.

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