

Oracle Drags Microsoft, Red Hat Into Itanium Lawsuit Swamp

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As Oracle and HP's lawsuit over the doomed Itanium chip drags on like some Dickensian subplot, it's time to introduce two new characters: Microsoft and Red Hat.

Both companies were served with subpoenas last Thursday by Oracle, which seems hell-bent on unearthing every embarrassing detail on Itanium and then flushing them into the public record.

On Monday, thanks to Oracle's lawyers, we learned that HP is paying close to \$700 million to keep Intel cranking out its unpopular Unix superprocessor until 2017. Oracle is trying to make the case that HP's public act of pretending that people liked Itanium was not marketing but fraud. We'll leave that one for the courts to decide.

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