



THE TEAM THAT BUILT THE ANDROID OPERATING
SYSTEM

ANDROID OPERATING SYSTEM

READ BY THE AUTHOR

CHET HAASE

ABOUT:



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REVIEW:

PREDOMINANTLY A STARTUP STORY ABOUT HOW EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE SMALL, FOCUSED TEAMS CAN BE. LET THAT BE A LESSON TO ANY LARGE COMPANIES SETTING UP "INNOVATION LABS".

MAYBE BY ITS NATURE, THE BOOK IS VERY US-CENTRIC. MANY "UNIQUE" FEATURES OF ANDROID WERE ALREADY MAINSTREAM IN OTHER PLATFORMS. OFTEN LIMITED TO FLAGSHIP RANGES DUE TO HARDWARE LIMITATIONS AT THE TIME. THE CONFLUENCE OF ONE OR TWO PERFORMANCE STEPS, 3G AND CAPACITIVE TOUCH CHANGED UI PARADIGMS. SONY WAS ALREADY THERE WITH UIQ THOUGH ON RESISTIVE TOUCH. NTT DOCOMO WAS WAY AHEAD OF EVERYONE ELSE WITH APP STORES. MANY OTHER COMMERCIAL APP STORES PRE-DATE ANDROID AND IPHONE, HANDAGO AND OTHERS. LIKewise MULTITASKING AND TASK SWITCHING. NOT THE ANDROID STACK/FORWARD/BACK MODEL, BUT TASK SELECTORS. EVEN PALMOS HAD THAT.

MUCH OF THIS TECH NEVER MADE IT TO THE US THOUGH. PREDOMINANTLY DUE TO THE FIERCELY PROTECTIONIST STANCE OF THE US MOBILE OPERATORS, E.G. THEY REFUSED TO CARRY SYMBIAN HANDSETS, BECAUSE THEY INCLUDED VOIP WHICH THREATENED THE OPERATORS' VOICE INCOME. LIKewise THEM BLOCKING TETHERING, ANOTHER STANDARD SYMBIAN FEATURE.

ABOUT BOOK:

In 2004, Android was two people who wanted to build camera software but couldn't get investors interested. Today, Android is a large team at Google, delivering an operating system (including camera software) to over 3 billion devices worldwide. This is the inside story, told by the people who made it happen.

Androids: The Team that Built the Android Operating System is a first-hand chronological account of how the startup began, how the team came together, and how they all built an operating system from the kernel level to its applications and everything in between. It describes the tenuous beginnings of this ambitious project as a tiny startup, then as a small acquisition by Google that took on an industry with strong, entrenched competition. Author Chet Haase joined the Android team at Google in May 2010 and later recorded conversations with team members to preserve the early days of Android's history leading to the launch of 1.0. This engaging and accessible book captures the developers' stories in their own voices to answer the question: How did Android succeed?

THANK YOU

**PRATIK THORAT
&
ABHISHEK WAGASKAR**

EMAIL

pratikthorat1995@gmail.com
abhiwagaskar6383@gmail.com

