

Huawei launches new \$2,600 foldable 5G phone to rival Samsung

<p>Notes &amp; Cues:</p>	<p>Article:</p> <p>Huawei Technologies Co. announced a smartphone that unfolds into a small tablet computer, potentially rendering the need to carry two separate devices obsolete.</p> <p>The Mate X supports next-generation 5G networks and will cost 2, 299 euros (\$2, 606) when released in the summer. When folded, the Mate X has a 6.6-inch display; but when opened out, it becomes an 8-inch tablet computer. It's the second folding phone announced by a major manufacturer within a week. Samsung revealed the Galaxy Fold on Wednesday.</p> <p>The market for smartphones is slowing, and manufacturers are scrambling to find new ways to convince consumers they should upgrade their devices. Next-generation high-speed networks are still far away from mainstream availability, so device makers are looking at new device form factors to conjure up excitement.</p> <p>Huawei has been battling global scrutiny over its telecom equipment, but often overlooked is the company's rapid growth as a smartphone manufacturer. Last year it surpassed Apple to become the world's second-largest maker of smartphones, according to data from market research firm IDC.</p> <p>Thomas Husson, an analyst at Forrester, said the Mate X "shows Huawei is a leader in tech innovation." But it will be "a few years" before a significant mass of customers get their hands on 5G functionalities and foldable screens, he said.</p>
<p>Summary:</p>	