

What Google has to prove in the first major antitrust case in decades

Decades after IBM and Microsoft, Google becomes the rare tech giant to be prosecuted in wide and sweeping antitrust action

Starting tomorrow (Sep. 12), Google, the world's most-used search engine, has to prove that it is not using its pole position in the sector to cannibalize its competition.

In October 2020, the US Department of Justice (DoJ) filed a civil antitrust suit against Google for monopolizing search and search advertising. Two months later, the attorneys general of 35 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Guam, filed a separate complaint. These cases have now been combined.

At the trial, which is expected to last 10 weeks, Google's "exclusive dealing arrangements" with the likes of Apple and Samsung will be under scrutiny, as will Google's habit of preloading its services on Android devices.

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