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Microsoft Sued for Spying on Customer Locations

Spy Snaps: **More in the News**



Microsoft Sued for Spying on Customer Locations

The class action lawsuit, filed in the US three weeks ago, alleges that Microsoft intentionally designed the software that runs cameras in Windows Phone 7 smartphones to collect and report the location data of its customers.

Lawyers, who sought out customers for the class action, claim that Microsoft continued spying even when the defendants had specifically asked the company not to do so. This case is based on the revelation in an earlier lawsuit, that claimed Apple's iPhones had collected location data and stored it unencrypted for as long as one year.

The suit against Microsoft, filed in the Seattle District Court, also alleges that the software giant set its operating system to siphon geographic location information from users and transmit their specific whereabouts to Microsoft's servers. For example, when Windows Phone Camera app was first launched, it asked the users whether they would like it to track location data that can be added to their photos. According to the lawsuit, even when the customer chose "no", the app continued to collect the information. The phone intermittently transmits data from both wireless and mobile networks to a server at Microsoft, which then tracks the user's location.

This is another case of a mobile phone giant illegally collecting its customer data. In May this year, Apple faced a Congressional investigation due to the location-data scandal about the iPhone. Furthermore, HTC with its Sensation and EVO 3D smartphones that have a "User behaviour Logging" function may join the list of being accused of spying on users alongside with Apple, Google and Microsoft.

[Read Full Story from Original Source...](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The UK's Security Service MI5 is recruiting "telephone spies" fluent in foreign language, to eavesdrop on potential terrorist plots during London 2012 Olympics.

Source: [Mirror](#)



Spy Snaps: **More in the News**

Illegal surveillance devices were planted in the senior management offices in the South Africa's Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) allegedly as a result of the power struggle between the country's second biggest political party, the Democratic Alliance and the University's management.



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The US Colorado-based clean coal technology company ADA-ES Inc. is ordered to pay Norit Americas Inc., a maker of activated carbon, over \$40.5 million to settle a trade secret dispute. Texas-based Norit claims ADA stole its protected information and used it to construct a manufacturing facility in Louisiana.

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A major trade secret related trial in the US has resulted with a federal jury awarding synthetic fiber producer DuPont Co. \$919 million in damages against its South Korean competitor Kolon Industries. The jury found that Kolon and its senior management had engaged in an orchestrated and persistent effort to steal DuPont's business information.

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