

## Americans apologise to Tokyo court for role in Ghosn escape

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TWO Americans charged in Japan with helping Nissan's former chairman, Carlos Ghosn, jump bail and escape for Lebanon apologized Tuesday in a Tokyo court.

"I deeply regret my actions and sincerely apologize for causing difficulties for the judicial process and for the Japanese people. I'm sorry," Michael Taylor, a former Green Beret said, bowing and holding back sobs.

Taylor, on trial in Tokyo District Court with his son Peter, said in response to questioning by his lawyer and prosecutors that he had been misinformed by Ghosn and his wife, Carole.

Carole Ghosn told Taylor her husband was "tortured" and grilled in solitary confinement, he said. Ghosn also said he was being mistreated, Taylor said.

Taylor said he has been well treated in Japan.

"I didn't know much about Japan. All I know is that the Japanese are the friendliest people I've ever bumped into," he said.

At the outset of their trial earlier this month, the Taylors indicated they weren't fighting the allegations, in Japan's equivalent of pleading guilty. They were arrested in Massachusetts last year and extradited to Japan in March.

Peter Taylor, who allegedly met with Ghosn to plan the escape, also apologized to the court for the "trouble" he had caused.

"I must apologize to the people of Japan," Peter Taylor said, bowing to a panel of three judges.

"After more than 400 days in jail, I have had a lot of time to reflect. I take full responsibility and deeply apologize. I am sorry," he

said.

If convicted of helping a criminal, the Taylors face up to three years in prison. Japanese trials often drag on for months, and their defense team has indicated they want the trial to finish as soon as possible. Showing remorse for wrongdoing is considered crucial for defendants hoping for judicial leniency.

Ghosn, who led Nissan for two decades, was arrested in November 2018,



### 'Misinformed'

Taylor, on trial in Tokyo District Court with his son Peter, said in response to questioning by his lawyer and prosecutors that he had been misinformed by Ghosn and his wife, Carole. Carole Ghosn told Taylor her husband was "tortured" and grilled in solitary confinement, he said.

and charged with financial misconduct, including falsifying securities reports to under-report his future compensation, and with breach of trust in using Nissan money for personal gain.

He says he is innocent, arguing that the compensation was never decided on or paid and the expenses were legitimate for his job.

Ghosn hid in a box for musical equipment and left Japan in a private jet in December 2019. He is now in Lebanon, which has no extradition treaty with Japan.

The Taylors, who have not been granted bail, are accused of playing leading roles in that escape.

# US agency's antitrust lawsuits against Facebook dismissed

US district judge rules the lawsuits were 'legally insufficient' to prove Facebook was a monopoly

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A federal judge has dismissed antitrust lawsuits brought against Facebook by the Federal Trade Commission and a coalition of state attorneys general, dealing a significant blow to attempts by regulators to rein in tech giants.

U.S. District Judge James Boasberg ruled Monday that the lawsuits were "legally insufficient" and didn't provide enough evidence to prove that Facebook was a monopoly. The ruling dismisses the complaint but not the case, meaning the FTC could refile another complaint.

"These allegations — which do not even provide an estimated actual figure or range for Facebook's market share at any point over the past ten years — ultimately fall short of plausibly establishing that Facebook holds market power," he said.

The FTC said in a statement that it is "closely reviewing the opinion and assessing the best option forward." The agency has 30 days in which to file a new complaint.

Boasberg closed that avenue for the states, however, in dismissing outright their separate complaint.

The U.S. government and 48 states and districts sued Facebook in December 2020, accusing the tech giant of abusing its market power in social networking to crush smaller competitors and seeking remedies that could include a forced spinoff of the social network's Instagram and WhatsApp messaging services.

The FTC had alleged Facebook engaged in a "systematic strategy" to eliminate its competition, including by purchasing smaller up-and-coming rivals like Instagram in 2012 and WhatsApp in 2014. New York Attorney General



The judge, while finding the FTC's arguments insufficient, gave the agency a sort of road map for how to bulk up its case in another round.

Letitia James said when filing the suit that Facebook "used its monopoly power to crush smaller rivals and snuff out competition, all at the expense of everyday users."

Facebook, in an e-mailed statement, said: "We are pleased that today's decisions recognize the defects in the government complaints filed against Facebook. We compete fairly every day to earn people's time and attention and will continue to deliver great products for the people and businesses that use our services."

Richard Hamilton Jr., a former prosecutor and Justice Department antitrust attorney, said the judge, while finding the FTC's arguments insuffi-

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"Whether government or private entity, you still need to sufficiently plead the case," Hamilton said. He noted that as Boasberg saw it, the FTC failed to demonstrate how it arrived at the claim that Fa-

cebook controls 60% of the market in social networking and how that market power is measured.

Alex Harman, competition policy advocate for Public Citizen, a consumer advocacy group, said: "Courts really have a hard time with that market definition for some reason. It's Exhibit A for why we need the laws changed."

Rebecca Allensworth, a law professor at Vanderbilt University who specializes in antitrust, said the ruling "illustrates the problems regulators face right now bringing antitrust suits in markets without prices, like Facebook's, but also Google's, and in markets where huge, dominant firms offer suites of products that

don't neatly fit into the mold of well-defined markets like aluminum ingot or crude oil."

An ambitious package of legislation to overhaul the antitrust laws, which could point toward breaking up Facebook as well as Google, Amazon and Apple, was approved by the House Judiciary Committee last week and sent to the full U.S. House.

"As the FTC and 48 state attorneys general have alleged, Facebook is a monopolist and it has abused its monopoly power to buy or bury its competitive threats," Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., who heads the Judiciary panel, and Rep. David Cicilline, D-R.I., the legislation's lead sponsor, said Monday.

## ICT tech can cut global emissions by up to 20%: Huawei's David Li

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HUAWEI inaugurated its participation in the Mobile World Congress (MWC) Barcelona with the "Green Forum" focused on how the ICT industry and digital technologies are contributing to sustainable development in the world, through case studies on green telecom network strategies and key challenges operators face when trying to achieve carbon neutrality.

In his speech at the event, President of Huawei Western Europe David Li focused on

how the ICT industry can use green digital telecommunications services to support its customers: "We are supporting other industries to reduce their carbon footprint through ICT solutions. We call this ICT enablement our 'carbon handprint'. The ICT industry's carbon footprint accounts for only about 2% of total emissions. But ICT technologies can be used to reduce total global emissions by up to 20%."

He also mentioned that Huawei believes in using bits to manage watts. Bits are the basic units of digital information and watts the basic

units of energy. Using bits to manage watts is to use digital technologies to achieve more efficient energy management. "Integrating digital and energy technologies lets us use new technological advances in AI, connectivity, and cloud computing to digitalize the energy industry."

Many other prominent industry stakeholders in attendance at the event also spoke out about the critical importance of ICT in the world's green plans. European Parliament Member Susana Solís Pérez said, "Practically, every sector can benefit from digital

solutions," and Mobile World Capital Barcelona's Head of Digital Future Society Carina Lopes said, "Reaching net-zero carbon emissions is not enough. The ICT and telecoms sector has the power to lead and radically transform our society."

GSMA's head of climate action Steven Moore pointed out that operators depend on green energy to help achieve the targets in other sectors by saying, "Our message to governments: We can't switch to renewables by our own."

Other industry players also spoke out at the event about

how advanced ICT technologies are changing the game across multiple industries. The Managing Director of Vantage Towers Spain Blanca Ceña spoke on how they are using Digital Twins to dramatically reduce the need for tower site visits, saying, "We believe that 5G will be a step-change, for the society and for Europe."

James Crawshaw, Principal Analyst of Service Provider Operations & IT at Omdia Informa Tech, explained how carbon reduction is the new focus for the ICT industry:

"Carbon reduction becomes the new focus - the in-

dustry must save energy and reduce carbon emissions. From the energy saving perspective, the focus is shifting from reducing absolute energy consumption to both energy consumption reduction and energy utilization efficiency enhancement. From the carbon reduction perspective, carbon emission per unit of data service is becoming a new measure for network greenness, and an applicable definition is needed to enable better carbon reduction roadmap management."

Telecom operators have been long-time proponents of

global sustainability efforts, with the mobile sector being the first industry vertical to commit to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals back in 2016. Significant work in network transformation is still needed though for operators to reach their zero carbon targets, and today's announcement by Huawei reaffirms their commitment to supporting this process.

MWC Barcelona 2021 runs from June 28 to July 1 in Barcelona, Spain. Huawei will showcase its products and solutions at Stand 1C50 in Hall 1 at Fira Gran Via.

### PIONEERING TECH

## Huawei unveils brand-new WiFi AX3 featuring Gigahome Quad-core and Wi-Fi 6 Plus

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HUAWEI launched its latest Huawei WiFi AX3 series, bolstered with support for the Wi-Fi 6 standards. Huawei has leveraged its expertise in 5G, recognized through its prominent role in formulating the Wi-Fi 6 standards, in developing a pioneering technology that facilitates seamless chip-level collaboration between the router and multiple other devices. This standout capability enables the Huawei WiFi AX3 series products to deliver a powerful Wi-Fi 6 Plus connection, when used in conjunction with Huawei devices.

The Huawei WiFi AX3 runs on the Huawei Harmony operating system, and features financial-level Huawei HomeSec™ security safeguards, providing users with an intuitive, lightning-fast, stable, and secure Wi-Fi 6 connection at

all times.

Huawei WiFi AX3 series routers come equipped with Huawei's exclusive Gigahome processor and Gigahome Wi-Fi 6 chipset. With the Wi-Fi 6 standards as the basis, Huawei has incorporated multi-chip collaborative technology, so as to ensure that the Huawei WiFi AX3 offers "Wi-Fi 6 Plus" at a doubled network speed, alongside enhanced wall penetration capabilities, when used with other Huawei Wi-Fi 6 devices.

By incorporating the Gigahome Wi-Fi 6 chipset, frequency bandwidth has improved to up to 160 MHz, enabling users to enjoy faster network near the device, and more stable connections from further distances away. The quad-core version of the Huawei WiFi AX3 series also provides support for Huawei Share. Simply by tapping an unlocked Android phone with NFC enabled against the router's NFC detection area, users



can connect directly to the Wi-Fi network without a password. This feature is particularly convenient to cater to house guests, or hotel and restaurant patrons.

The Huawei WiFi AX3 Pro is the first home router to run on

Huawei's proprietary Harmony operating system. Taking the factors that slow down wireless network speed into account, it optimizes the routing system from the app layer, driver layer, and kernel layer, and establishes

a two-year aging test model to ensure its long-term stability.

Because of its deep understanding of 5G technologies, Huawei has become a major contributor to the Wi-Fi 6 standard. Huawei experts have chaired five Wi-Fi standard working groups. Additionally, Huawei has submitted 240 new Wi-Fi 6 (802.11ax) proposals, accounting for 15% of all proposals, which is more than any other device manufacturer. Huawei has also introduced many advanced 5G technologies into Wi-Fi 6.

Thanks to its long-term investment in Wi-Fi 6, Huawei not only offers products that support the Wi-Fi 6 standards, but also integrates unique chip collaboration technologies using its self-developed Gigahome Wi-Fi chips. This enables a range of Huawei Wi-Fi 6 devices to deliver an optimal user experience.

As well as being a leader in

Wi-Fi 6 technology, Huawei is proposing a mid- to long-term strategy to build a seamless smart life for consumers in the next 5 to 10 years, based on the "1+8+N" strategy which focuses on five major scenarios. In this strategy, Wi-Fi routers play a crucial role as connection centers, providing a simple, high-speed, stable, and secure Wi-Fi connection vital for enjoying a high-quality smart life, which is Huawei's long-term objective.

Huawei has invested tens of millions of dollars in developing dedicated chips for routers. Through the combination of software and hardware at the bottom layer of chips, Huawei has eliminated more than 80% of problems relating to frame freezing, delays, and disconnections. In addition to the AX3 series, Huawei will continue to use the Gigahome chipsets on future products.