

Intel: Enterprise PCs Going strong

Written by Marco Attard
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Following what is described as stronger-than-expected enterprise PC demand Intel improves its outlook for Q2 2014-- the company increases its revenue forecast from \$13 billion (plus or minus \$500 million) to \$13.7bn (plus or minus \$300m).



The improved outlook also sees Intel getting some revenue growth for the year, as opposed to a previous forecast of essentially flat results.

The higher PC unit volume will lead to a Q2 2014 gross margin range of 64%, while full-year 2014 gross margin should be in the upper half of the previous range of 61%, plus or minus "a few" percentage points.

Intel will provide additional commentary on all business segments once it reports the actual Q2 2014 results on 15 July.

Such positive signs follow Intel's Q1 2014 results, when it remarked of "signs of improvement in the PC business"-- but will it be enough to offset the record €1.06 billion European Commission fine Chipzilla just received from the European Commission?

The fine is the conclusion of a 2009 antitrust case where Intel was accused of blocking AMD chips from the market (according to the EC Intel paid rebates to HP, Dell, NEC and Lenovo to push x86 PCs and paid Media Saturn to only stock Intel Inside PCs). Intel challenged the fine on grounds of its being too harsh, but the General Court upheld the 2009 decision.

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"The Commission demonstrated to the requisite legal standard that Intel attempted to conceal the anti-competitive nature of its practices and implemented a long term comprehensive strategy to foreclose AMD from the strategically most important sales channels," the court says.

Intel can drag the case even further mind-- it can take it further to the European Union Court of Justice, but only on points of law. "We are very disappointed about the decision," the company tells Reuters. "It's a complex case which is reflected in the decision. We will begin evaluating the decision."

Go [Intel Raises Q2 and Full-Year Revenue and Gross Margin Expectations.](#)

Go [Commission Welcomes General Court Judgment Upholding Decision Against Intel](#)

Go [Intel Loses Court Challenge Against EU Fine \(Reuters\)](#)