

August 2016 Welcome to the iDevices (iPhone, iPad, Apple Watch & iPod) SIG Meeting.

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Apple's 'iPhone 7 Plus' predicted to face supply constraints due to new dual-lens camera

By Matt Milano

Friday, August 05, 2016, 01:11 pm PT (04:11 pm ET)

By introducing an entirely new dual-lens camera system in the larger 5.5-inch variant of this year's iPhone upgrade, Apple could struggle with demand for the so-called "iPhone 7 Plus" at launch this fall, one analyst believes.



Amit Daryanani of RBC Capital Markets issued a note to investors this week, a copy of which was provided to *AppleInsider*, discussing features widely rumored for Apple's upcoming "iPhone 7" series. Thanks to growing demand for larger "phablet" screens, he predicts that the "iPhone 7 Plus" will account for one-third of production at launch.

Since the introduction of the 5.5-inch form factor with the iPhone 6 Plus, the larger phone has sported a superior camera than its smaller sibling. According to rumors and leaks ahead of the product's launch, the "iPhone 7 Plus" looks to continue that trend.

Daryanani believes this year's "Plus" model will feature a dual-lens camera capable of producing DSLR-like image quality. But he also believes the dual-lens camera will be the culprit in limiting availability at launch, with suppliers expected to struggle to keep up with demand at launch.

While there are other dual-lens smartphone cameras on the market, Apple's implementation is expected to be a proprietary method based on technology acquired from LinX back in 2015.

Supply constraints associated with new technology in Apple products are not new — availability of the Apple Watch was limited for months after it launched in the spring of 2015. Even this year, Apple has struggled to match demand for its entry-level iPhone SE, as the company misjudged how popular the handset would be.

Beyond the dual-lens camera, Daryanani's "iPhone 7" predictions echo much of what has been discussed about the upcoming model. He expects it to include an upgraded "A10" processor manufactured by TSMC, improved water resistance, plus faster LTE.

Daryanani also believes the "iPhone 7" will ship with a minimum of 32 gigabytes of storage, rather than the current 16 gigabytes. In addition, he also sees the handset including 3 gigabytes of DRAM on the "Plus" model, and possibly even the 4.7-inch base model.

Also in line with established rumors, he believes the "iPhone 7" will shed its 3.5-millimeter headphone jack.

Looking forward, Daryanani does believe that ever-increasing replacement cycles in the

smartphone market will lead to a dip in sales for the calendar year. Whereas the replacement cycle averaged 27 months in 2015, he expects it will extend to 29 months in 2016, and increase even further to 31 months through 2017.

In his view, these longer upgrade cycles could lead to a 9 percent year-over-year drop in sales to an estimated 210 million iPhones in 2016.

Leaked parts and consensus suggest the chassis of the "iPhone 7" will look largely the same as its predecessors. That has led many on Wall Street, including Daryanani, to predict that this year's model will not match the pent-up demand Apple saw for the iPhone 6 series.

Still, RBC Capital Markets has maintained an "outperform" rating for Apple's stock, with a target price of \$115 a share. Estimates for the September quarter are \$46.9 billion in revenue and earnings of \$1.66 per share, which are slightly ahead of Wall Street consensus.

Rumors have suggested preorders for the "iPhone 7" will begin on Sept. 9, with the product making its way into the hands of consumers later in the month.

Apple's 'iPhone 7' again said to have pressure sensing haptic home button

By Neil Hughes

Monday, August 08, 2016, 04:44 am PT (07:44 am ET)

The Touch ID home button on this year's iPhone will not physically click, instead mimicking the sensation of a click with haptic feedback, just like Apple's Force Touch trackpad found on newer MacBooks, a new report reaffirms.



Citing people familiar with this year's iPhone upgrades, *Bloomberg* reported on Monday that the new pressure sensing home button will feature a "vibrating haptic sensation" to simulate the feeling of a click. The change will mean one less moving part on the device, allowing for thinner designs and also potentially avoiding reliability and durability issues.

The report reaffirms numerous earlier claims suggesting that the home button on this year's so-called "iPhone 7" will not click. It's also believed that the design change could aid in making this year's device more waterproof than ever.

An unmoving home button borrows a concept Apple established last year with the Force

Touch trackpad found on the new 12-inch MacBook and latest MacBook Pros. Rather than physically clicking the trackpad simulates the feeling of a click with Apple's proprietary "Taptic" engine.

Beyond the home button, Monday's report reaffirmed many of the other expectations for this year's iPhone upgrades. In particular, it restated that the larger "iPhone 7 Plus" will feature a new dual-lens camera system that will result in superior pictures, and also allow users to zoom in photos while retaining image clarity.

Bloomberg said that each lens on the 5.5-inch iPhone will capture colors differently, then merge the two photos instantly to produce a single, high-quality picture. Photos in low-light environments are also said to be improved.

As expected, the smaller 4.7-inch model will retain a single-lens design, it was said.

Finally, the report also added to the expectation that this year's iPhones will remove the 3.5millimeter headphone jack, opting instead for Lightning- and Bluetooth-connected headphones. The report gave no indication whether Apple plans to include Lightning EarPods or new wireless earbuds in the box, but did say the elimination of the headphone jack will make room for a second speaker.

Other reports have suggested the new "iPhone 7" will feature a next-generation "A10" processor, and will start with a minimum of 32 gigabytes of storage. The design is expected to look largely the same as the current iPhone 6s series, though antenna lines on the back will be removed.

'Apple Watch 2' with GPS, barometer, better waterproofing, more to launch in 2H of 2016

By Mikey Campbell

Sunday, August 07, 2016, 07:45 pm PT (10:45 pm ET)

Apple is planning to release two Apple Watch versions in the second half of 2016, one a minor update over existing models and an "Apple Watch 2" with GPS, barometer and more, according to one connected insider.



Well-connected KGI analyst Ming-Chi Kuo in a note to investors on Sunday, obtained by *AppleInsider*, detailed Apple's wearable timeline for the coming six months.

Kuo believes Apple is planning to launch two new Apple Watch versions in the second half of 2016, both of which offer moderate improvements over their predecessor. The first unit will be an iterative upgrade on the original Apple Watch and is expected to sport the same aesthetics, but with improved intervals like a TSMC processor built on the 16nm process. Waterproofing should also be slightly improved.

A second version, dubbed "Apple Watch 2," is also expected to share the same general design as current models, but will include a GPS radio and barometer for improved geolocation capabilities. A higher capacity battery will be included to power the advanced components, but its size will prohibit Apple's usual generational device slimming.

Looking ahead, Kuo doesn't expect Apple to change its wearable form factor in 2017, a year that will most likely bring LTE support for standalone cellphone and data functionality. More radical design changes should arrive in 2018 alongside improved health applications and potentially FDA approval.

With two device introductions in the offing, Kuo is raising his fiscal 2016 shipment predictions to between 10 million and 11 million units, up from between 7 million and 7.5 million.



Latest aerial footage of Apple's Campus 2 shows start of work on 'spaceship's' garden & pond



The latest drone footage of Apple's new "Spaceship" headquarters under construction shows a much more complete structure, plus the start of work on niceties in the center of the facility and elsewhere.

Previous videos have shown the interior structure of the building, which is now shown as partially clad by the curved glass panels, measuring up to 46 feet wide, and 10.5 feet long.

Other work progression shown in the video includes near-completion of the parking structure with the buried facility in the process of being covered by dirt, the start of the security stand, and the beginning of the artificial pond creation in the open core of the headquarters.

The video also shows the start of work on satellite facilities to the main campus, such as research centers, and the maintenance structure. Additionally, more solar arrays are in the process of being installed, with a large number staged for the remainder of installation on the roof of the main headquarters, and elsewhere.

In 2011, Steve Jobs announced the project to the world, saying over 12,000 employees would work in the 2.8-million-square-foot "Spaceship" structure. Edible landscaping, walking paths, and other "green" improvements are in the process of construction, to minimize the impact the facility makes on the environment.

Apple's related Phase 2 adjacent project adds additional workspace, and includes a renewable energy-powered small data center.

Apple's microgrid is reportedly capable of handling about 75 percent of Campus 2 power requirements during work hours, supplemented by Bloom Energy-provided fuel cells. Bloom Energy provided similar cells, currently in use at Apple's North Carolina data center.

Campus 2 is expected to be completed by the end of 2016.

Click here for the video

How do you make sure your iPhone, iPad, Apple Watch is still covered under AppleCare? By checking the status on Apple's Warranty Status website.

Every iPhone, iPad, Apple Watch, Apple TV, and Mac comes with a one year warranty against manufacturing defects and hardware failures. If you choose, you can also extend that warranty for additional years with AppleCare. Regardless which warranty you have, you can easily find out whether or not your Apple products are currently covered. Here's how.

Navigate to Apple's Warranty Status page. Enter your device's serial number into the text field. Enter the CAPTCHA code to confirm that you are human. Click Continue.

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You will be redirected to a summary page for the device you are checking on.

Valid Purchase Date - This confirms that the item in question has, indeed, been purchased

Telephone Technical Support: Active or Expired - If your telephone technical support is active, it will include the estimated expiration date. If it is expired, it will include whether or not the device is still eligible for the extended AppleCare warranty with a link to purchase it when eligible.

Repairs and Service Coverage: Active or Expired - If your repairs and services coverage is active, it will include the estimated expiration date. If it is expired, it will include whether or not the device is still eligible for the extended AppleCare warranty with a link to purchase it when eligible.

Covered by the AppleCare Protection Plan - If you have purchased the extended AppleCare warranty for your device, it will be listed here.

iOS 9.3 is here! And here's how to download and install it!

Make sure you have a recent update to iTunes.

Launch iTunes on your Mac or Windows PC

Plug your iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch in using your USB to Lightning or USB to 30-pin Dock cable.

Click on the device icon at the top left to go to the device tab.

Click on Back up iPhone or iPad. Do not encrypt if unless you write down the password! Click on update iOS link.

Confirm that you want to update.

Other useful links that you can click on:

How to use Nightshift How to use Notes Lock

Free Reference Materials For your iDevices

Apple iPhone User Guide



Apple iPad User Guide

Apple Support Page

Apple Watch Manual





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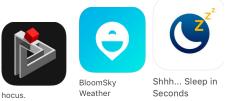
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Includes independent reviews and evaluations

Apps That Might Be of Interest



Next meeting is on September 14, 2016 at 3:00 pm

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