

Smart phones on agenda at Tahoe area tech conference

Publisher's note: This week's technology conference at Northstar-at-Tahoe has brought out a who's who in the tech world, like Bill Gates, and other representatives of today's leading companies.

By Alexei Oreskovic, Reuters

About 200,000 smartphones and other devices based on Google's Android operating system are sold every day, CEO Eric Schmidt said on Wednesday, underscoring the strong challenge to rivals like Apple's iPhone.

The world's No.1 search engine is hunting for new revenue opportunities as growth in its core Internet business slows and as new technologies like smartphones and social networking services transform the way consumers access the Web.

Schmidt expects revenue from search advertising on mobile phones to eventually exceed the revenue Google generates from searches on PCs. But he could not predict when.

"It looks like Android is not just phenomenal but an incredibly phenomenal success in its growth rate," Schmidt told reporters on the sidelines of the Techonomy conference in Lake Tahoe, California, where he spoke on a panel earlier.

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