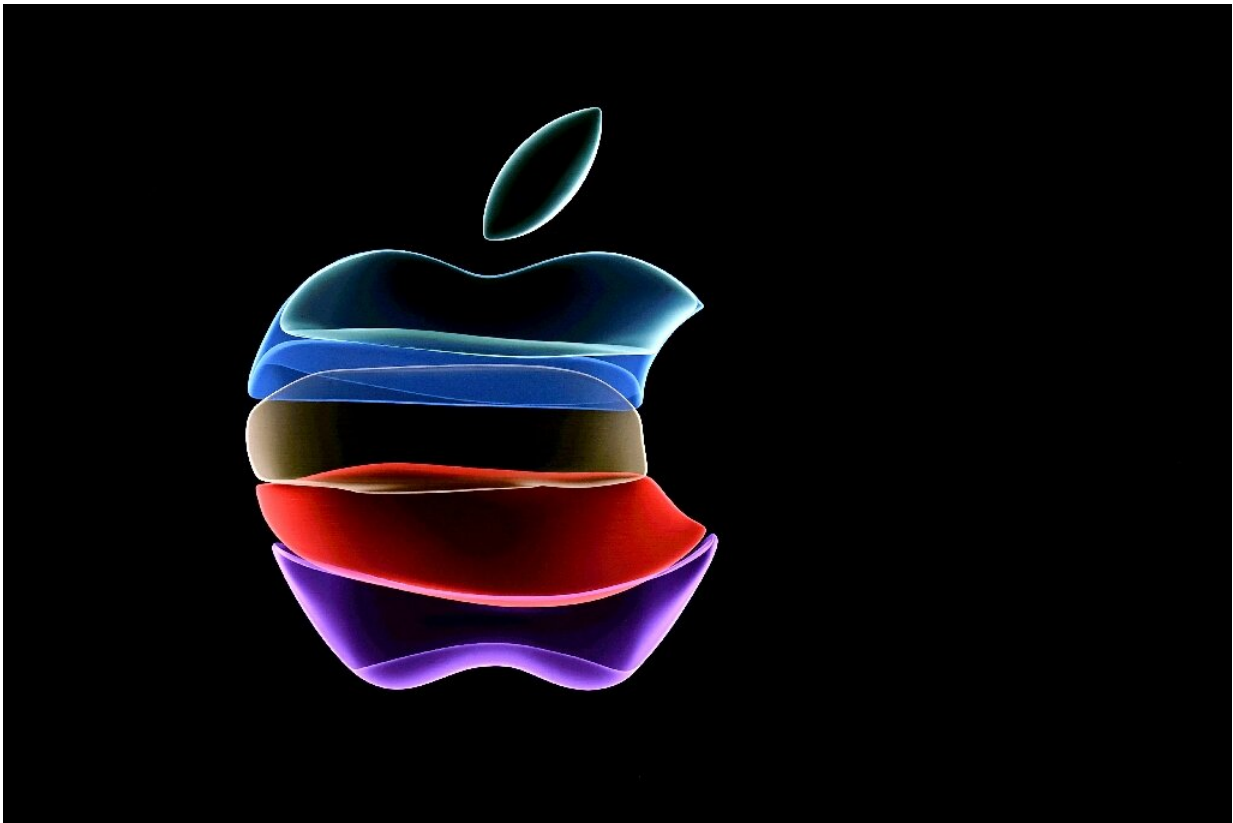


Apple developing search engine to compete with Google: report

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Apple may be working on its own search engine that would be part of its mobile devices, potentially competing with the dominant market player Google

Apple has accelerated work to develop its own search engine that would allow the iPhone maker to offer an alternative to Google, a Financial

Times report said Wednesday.

The report, citing unnamed sources, said signs of the [search engine](#) technology have begun to appear in its iOS 14 operating system.

The move comes amid increased scrutiny by antitrust enforcers, who sued Google in the United States over its dominance in search technology.

As part of the lawsuit, the Department of Justice noted that Google pays Apple billions of dollars to be the principal search engine on iOS devices.

Apple did not immediately respond to an AFP query. Reports in the past have said Apple had begun some in-house research on creating a search engine.

According to the FT, Apple two years ago hired Google's head of search, John Giannandrea, in a move designed to help build artificial intelligence capabilities and its Siri virtual assistant.

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