

Facebook tech chief Mike Schroepfer to step down

September 23 2021, by Barbara Ortutay



In this Thursday, March 26, 2015, file photo, Chief Technology Officer Mike Schroepfer talks about virtual reality while delivering a keynote address at the Facebook F8 Developers Conference, in San Francisco. Facebook's CTO Schroepfer is stepping down from the social media company, taking on a part time role while longtime executive Andrew Bosworth will replace him in 2022. Schroepfer, known as "Schrep," has been at Facebook for 13 years and is a close friend of CEO Mark Zuckerberg. Credit: AP Photo/Eric Risberg, File

Facebook's Chief Technology Officer Mike Schroepfer is stepping down from the social media company, taking on a part-time role while longtime executive Andrew Bosworth will replace him next year.

Schroepfer, known as "Schrep," has been at Facebook for 13 years and is a close friend of CEO Mark Zuckerberg. He called his decision difficult "because of how much I love Facebook and how excited I am about the future we are building together" but added that his new role will let him focus on personal and philanthropic efforts while staying connected to Facebook.

The transition will happen sometime in 2022.

Bosworth, known as "Boz," is another longtime Facebook exec and a close friend of Zuckerberg's. He has most recently been in charge of Facebook's augmented reality and virtual reality efforts, as well as hardware products such as Oculus and Portal, Facebook's video calling gadget.

"As our next CTO, Boz will continue leading Facebook Reality Labs and overseeing our work in augmented [reality](#), [virtual reality](#) and more, and as part of this transition a few other groups will join Boz's team as well," Zuckerberg [wrote in a memo](#) to Facebook staff that was posted online. "This is all foundational to our broader efforts helping to build the metaverse, and I'm excited about the future of this work under Boz's leadership."

Schroepfer's transition comes amid relentless challenges for Facebook that have ranged from concerns about extremism, vaccine and election-related misinformation spreading on its platforms, regulatory pressure on competition, [antitrust issues](#) and user privacy among other issues.

Another longtime executive, Fidji Simo, left Facebook over the summer

to become CEO of Instacart.

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Citation: Facebook tech chief Mike Schroepfer to step down (2021, September 23) retrieved 3 May 2024 from <https://techxplore.com/news/2021-09-facebook-tech-chief-mike-schroepfer.html>

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