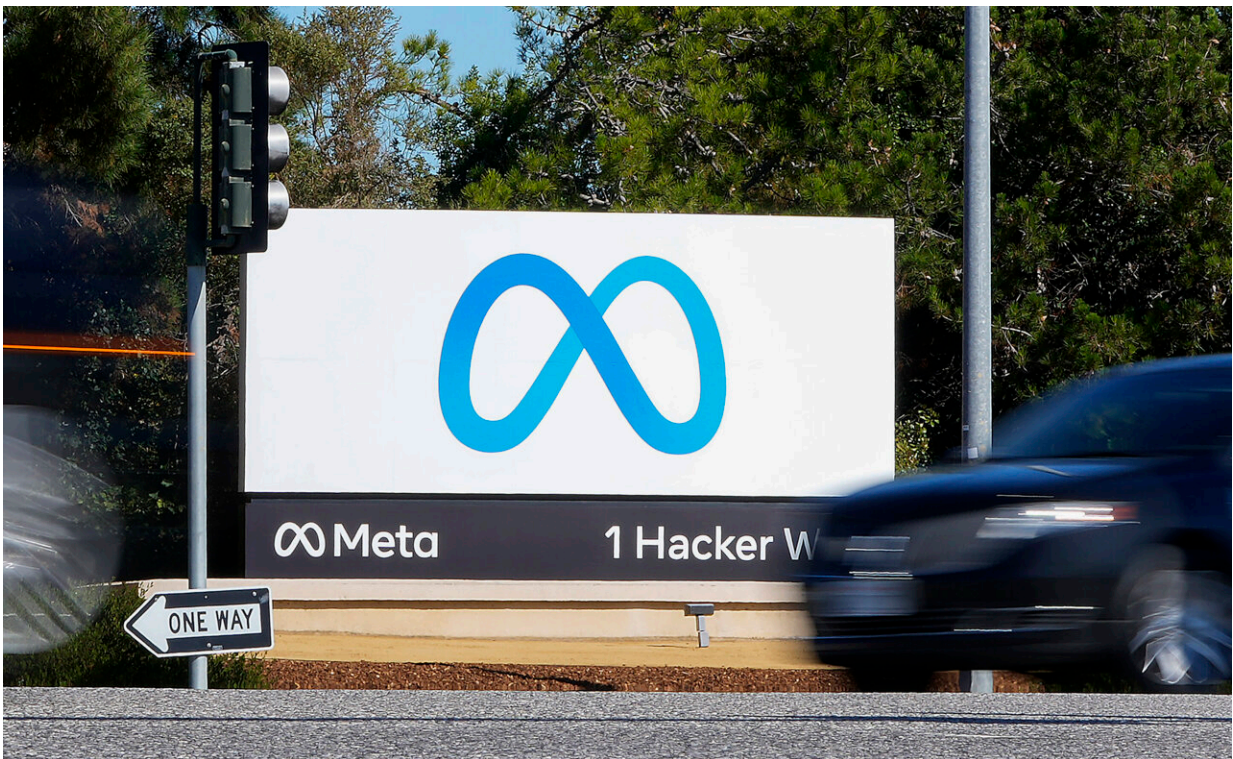


Facebook owner Meta unveils \$1,500 VR headset: Will it sell?

October 12 2022, by Barbara Ortutay



A car passes Facebook's new Meta logo on a sign at the company headquarters on Oct. 28, 2021, in Menlo Park, Calif. Facebook parent Meta unveiled a high-end virtual reality headset Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2022, with the hope that people will soon be using it to work and play in the still-elusive place called the "metaverse." Credit: AP Photo/Tony Avelar, File

Facebook parent Meta unveiled a high-end virtual reality headset

Tuesday with the hope that people will soon be using it to work and play in the still-elusive place called the "metaverse."

The \$1,500 Meta Quest Pro headset sports high-resolution sensors that let people see mixed virtual and augmented [reality](#) in full color, as well as [eye tracking](#) and so-called "natural facial expressions" that mimic the wearer's facial movements so their [avatars](#) appear natural when interacting with other avatars in virtual-reality environments.

Formerly known as Facebook, Meta is in the midst of a corporate transformation that it says will take years to complete. It wants to evolve from a provider of social platforms to a dominant power in a nascent virtual-reality construct called the metaverse—sort of like the internet brought to life, or at least rendered in 3D.

CEO Mark Zuckerberg has described the metaverse as an immersive virtual environment, a place people can virtually "enter" rather than just staring at it on a screen. The [company](#) is investing billions in its metaverse plans that will likely take years to pay off.

VR headsets are already popular with some gamers, but Meta knows that won't be enough to make the metaverse mainstream. As such, it's setting [office](#)—and home office—workers in its sights.

"Meta is positioning the new Meta Quest Pro headset as an alternative to using a laptop," said to Rolf Illenberger, founder and managing director of VRdirect, which builds VR environments for businesses. But he added that for businesses, operating in the virtual worlds of the metaverse is still "quite a stretch."

Meta also announced that its metaverse avatars will soon have legs—an important detail that's been missing since the avatars made their debut last year.

© 2022 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without permission.

Citation: Facebook owner Meta unveils \$1,500 VR headset: Will it sell? (2022, October 12) retrieved 17 April 2024 from

<https://techxplore.com/news/2022-10-facebook-owner-meta-unveils-vr.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.