

## Samsung Begins Next-Gen Apple Chip Production?

Written by Marco Attard  
19. December 2014

---

Samsung starts producing the "A9," the next generation of Apple application processor, Korea's Electronic Times reports, with production using a cutting-edge 14nm FinFET process for the first time.



Production is reportedly taking place in Samsung's Austin, Texas plant, due to performance security and supply issues.

The story is interesting, as it suggests Apple is back to depending on its greatest rival for the chips powering its smartphones-- [according to IHS](#) Samsung makes just 40% of the A8 chips inside the iPhone 6 and 6 Plus, with the lion's share of production going to Taipei-based Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. (TSMC). However TSMC lacks the means for the 14nm process, and can only promise 16nm chips for 2015.

In other words? Despite patent litigation and general bad blood, Apple has to bow its head to the S. Korean titan if it wants the latest in chip production.

Go [Samsung Began Production on Apple A9 in 14nm FinFET \(Electronic Times\)](#)