

Echoes Through Dual-Screens

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Kyocera unveils a first-- the Echo, a dual-touchscreen Android smartphone.

The set carries x2 3.5" touchscreens (each with 480 x 800 resolution), which one can open into a 4.7" 960 x 800 surface. The screen can either close for use as a regular touchscreen handset, unfold into a flat tablet-style surface or prop up into a laptop-like configuration.

Connecting the screens is what Kyocera describes as a sliding liquid-metal hinge.

Powering the device are a 1GHz Snapdragon processor running Android 2.2-- customised to handle dual-screen support for 7 core apps (for example, the email app can show mails one screen, and a keyboard on the other). Kyocera also says the phone can run optimised apps simultaneously, with each app on a different screen-- or at least appear to do, as it switches apps in and out of hibernation.

Finally the set also comes with other smartphone standards, including 5MP camera, GPS and 3G/wifi connections

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