

Microsoft's Windows 8 operating system has become controversial over Microsoft's decision to exclude alternative or rival web browsers from running in its tiled or Metro environment. Windows 8 has two interfaces the classic desktop interface that's always been part of Windows and the new tiled interface particularly for mobile devices that's part of Windows RT. Microsoft has announced alternative web browsers will be allowed in Windows desktop mode but not the tiled mode. This is anti-competitive and unfair harkening back to the days of the antitrust case against Microsoft over their discriminating against Netscape. Apple's iOS has a greater share of the mobile market than Microsoft but it allows third party alternative web browsers to be installed on iPhones, iPads and iPod Touches via the App Store. Microsoft says users will only have the choice to run other browsers on the Windows desktop not mobile devices or desktop PCs using the tiled Windows environment. U.S. and EU regulators need to look into this matter and ensure web browser choice also exists along with choice in competing phone and cable companies for broadband Internet services whether via fixed or mobile connections.