

Microsoft announces a "deepening of strategic relationships" with Lenovo in a deal having Lenovo preload Microsoft apps on select devices, as well as a "patent cross-licensing agreement."

The Microsoft apps in question are of the productivity variety, such as Office, OneDrive and Skype. They will be found in premium Android-powered Lenovo smartphones and tablets.

“Our collaboration with Microsoft will create new opportunities for our customers to take advantage of some of Microsoft’s most popular apps,” Lenovo says. “Installing Microsoft apps and services on our devices will bring additional value to consumers around the globe.”

Meanwhile the patent agreement essentially forces Lenovo to pay Microsoft for the honour of making Android devices. This is the result of a 2010 legal spat accusing Google of infringing Microsoft software patents, one leading to deals with phone makers including HTC, Xiaomi, LG, Sony, Dell and Samsung.

Go Lenovo and Microsoft Deepen Strategic Ties Across Devices