

i-technology

iPad2 Beats Competition on Size, Price

(AP) — South Korean giant Samsung Electronics admits it faces a tough challenge to compete with Apple's new slimmer and cheaper iPad.

The iPad 2 unveiled last week is one-third the thickness of its predecessor (about one-third of an inch) and also thinner than Samsung's latest Galaxy gadget.

"We will have to improve the parts that are inadequate," said Lee

Don-Joo, executive vice president of the Korean firm's mobile division. "Apple made it very thin."

Apple is also winning on price so far.

Samsung's original seven-inch screen Galaxy Tab was priced at nearly \$900 if bought without a two-year contract from mobile opera-

tors, while the cheapest iPad 2 costs \$499.

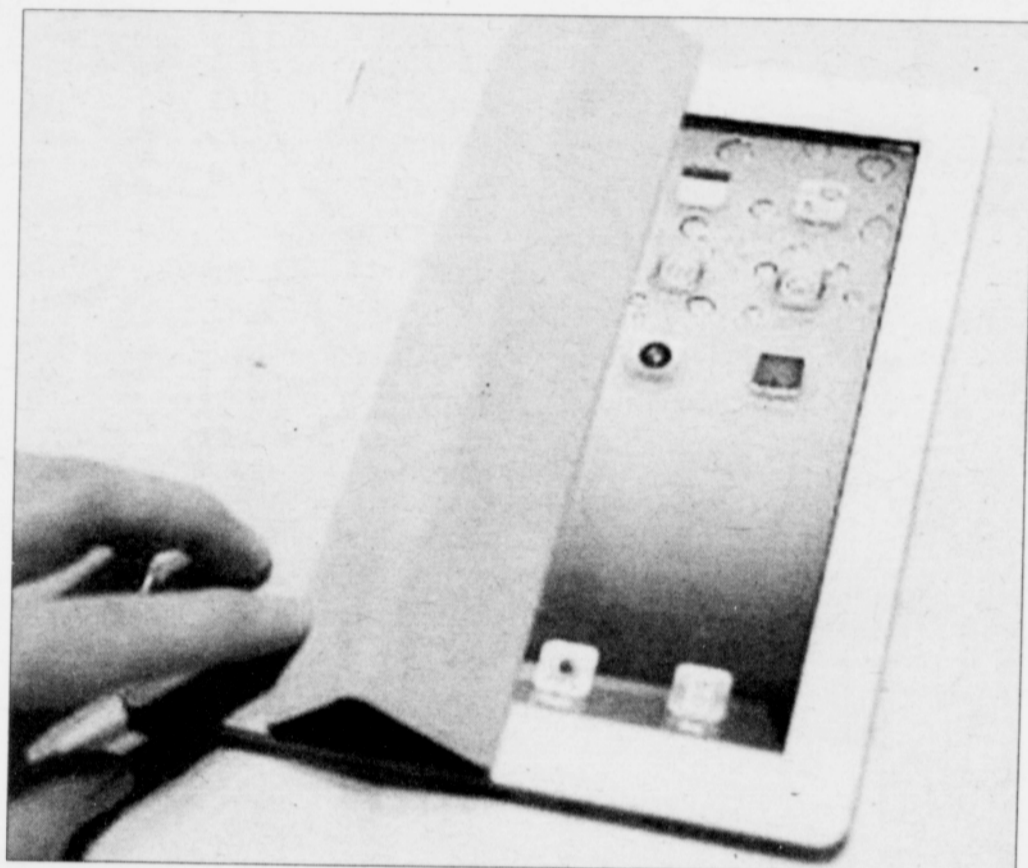
Samsung has not announced pricing for its new 10.1-inch tablet.

Samsung has sold two million Galaxy Tabs since October 2010 while Apple sold 15 million iPads in April-December.

Rival manufacturers have been

scrambling to bring their own tablet computers to market since Apple introduced the iPad last year.

Overall sales of tablets, which can be used to surf the Web, read electronic books, watch videos and more, are forecast to hit 55 million this year.



The iPad 2 with a Smart Cover is shown here after the launch of the tablet computer during an Apple event last week in San Francisco.

TriMet Tests Audible Pedestrian Warnings

System triggered when bus driver starts turning

TriMet has begun testing a system that makes automatic announcements when a bus is turning. Ten buses have been equipped with the external audible warning system. When the operator turns the steering wheel to enter a turn, an external announcement is triggered, announcing "Pedestrians, bus is turning." The announcement will be made in both English and Spanish.

This test will help the agency determine if an automatic audible warning will make it safer for those near a turning bus. It was recommended that TriMet explore the technology as part of the comprehensive safety review initiated following the fatal bus crash last April. A few transit agencies including Baltimore, Cleveland and Washington, D.C., have experimented with similar systems.

"We are testing this system to see if it helps pedestrians and bicyclists be more aware that a bus is

turning," said Shelly Lomax, TriMet Operations Executive Director.

The 10 buses will be put in service on lines 14-Hawthorne and 15-Belmont/NW 23rd. These routes allow TriMet to test the warning device in commercial, industrial and residential environments. The buses will be rotated to other lines for additional testing.

The announcement will be activated if the steering wheel is turned one revolution to the right or left. Buses changing lanes should not activate the system. The audio level is set at 100 decibels, which is the same level as TriMet's external automatic stop announcement).

The use of this system does not change TriMet's legal and professional obligation to operate safely, be alert and scan the intersection before turning.

Part of the evaluation includes feedback from people living, working, walking, biking and driving nearby, as well as TriMet operators. Comments can be emailed to comments@trimet.org or by calling 503-238-RIDE (7433) weekdays between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.



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