

Document 1 :

WhatsApp to cut off support for millions of phones, tells people to buy new ones instead

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Older devices are going to have their support cut off so that they'll no longer be able to use the free chat app.

Phones including the iPhone 3GS and Android handsets are about to stop being supported by WhatsApp's engineers. And when that happens, owners will no longer be able to send or receive messages.

WhatsApp first announced the change early this year. But it said then that it would be implemented by the end of the year, and so there are only relatively few days left before it happens.

The company has advised that anyone who has an older phone should buy a new one before the end of 2016. "If you use one of these affected mobile devices, we recommend upgrading to a newer Android, iPhone, or Windows Phone before the end of 2016 to continue using WhatsApp," it wrote in a blog post published in February (...).

(...) Facebook-owned WhatsApp said at the time that it was making the move so that it could make sure the platform was more secure and that it could put a "greater emphasis" on new features.

"When we started WhatsApp in 2009, people's use of mobile devices looked very different from today," the company wrote in the February blog post, which was written the week of WhatsApp's seventh anniversary.

Document 2 :

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