



ASUS & Acer have frozen new Netbook launches in the 2nd half of this year, in response to Intel's decision to postpone the launch of the Pine Trail-M platform (based on Atom N450 cpu) until the 1st quarter of next year.



ASUS' Android Netbook isn't predicted to launch before the end of October, while its T101 10-inch convertible touchscreen netbook is on hold until after Microsoft releases Windows 7.

Both companies, according to industry sources, are instead planning on focusing their attentions on the ultra-thin notebook segment, such as those using Intel's CULV range of processors. ASUS are tipped to have 12-, 13.3- and 15-inch models ready, with 12- and 14-inch models following in August, while Acer already sells 13.3-, 14.1- & 15.6-inch models with further options – including integrated optical drives & discrete graphics – dependent on market demand.

Separately, Acer and ASUS are among several Nettop manufacturers who are believed to be pushing to clear their existing inventories with further price cuts. Along with MSI and Synnex Technology International, they're clearing the way for Intel's upcoming Pine Trail-D nettop processors, also expected to launch in Q1 2010. ASUS will launch an NVIDIA Ion equipped Nettop in October 2009, together with the Eee Box 1006, according to SlashGear.com.