## Dear HTC,

We appreciate the good quality, look and feel and the design of HTC smartphone products. That's why our developers have created many ROMs for the phone with the Gingerbread Kernel source code, but currently our developers are left in the lurch:

An official HTC Desire S (codenamed saga) Ice Cream Sandwich OTA (Over-The-Air) update was released almost a month ago on the 20th of June, 2012 (OTA SAGA ICS 35 S HTCCN CHS 3.07.1400.2-2.13.1400.5 release 266787nqe77g7amps0cr9a). Yet the htcdev.com website has still not been updated with the matching kernel source.

Android is an open-platform and is based on the GNU/Linux Kernel. The Linux kernel is licensed under GNU General Public License v2 or GPL (<a href="http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-2.0.html">http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-2.0.html</a>), which means that you are legally obligated to release the source code for any derivative work within a reasonable time frame. This code is free software (free as in free speech) and this means that it is developed by volunteers around the world. They do not wish to earn money with this code, only that it spreads the great idea of freedom and free software. We want to make the software as good as possible and improve what you have currently done.

Developers are working hard to bring new ROMs and continue support to your devices, which many of your customers are eager to use. At the moment we have nearly 40 Android 4.0 based ROMs for the Desire S (<a href="http://forum.xda-developers.com/showpost.php?p=15187889">http://forum.xda-developers.com/showpost.php?p=15187889</a>) running without the 3.0 kernel source and the community is already working on Jelly Bean based ROMs. By releasing the kernel source code you can improve our experiences with the device and with HTC as a company. The very openness of Android is intended to draw many people and by withholding kernel source code you are ultimately alienating your customers who may move on to purchase devices made by a different company (e.g. a Google Nexus device with pure and newest Android).

Furthermore we know that we can and will lose the phone's warranty by installing unofficial phone updates, but we, the developers, know what we are doing with the device, so it doesn't restrict the usage of the phone nor does it affect HTC in any way. And as we believe, most of the phone's warranty may have already ended meaning we take full responsibility for anything that may happen to our phones.

We are aware that this device is from a previous hardware generation and we are grateful that you are continuing to support it, but we would all be happy if your continued support is not only directed at your customers, but also as required by copyright law.

Please do the right thing and release the Desire S Android 4.0 kernel source. Thank you.

Sincerely yours, The xda-developers community.

This letter was written and is signed by the xda-developers community:

- Timo Tomasini, Germany
- Christian Weberruß, Germany
- Florian Schmidt, Germany
- Frederico Silva, Portugal
- Jeremy Ong, Malaysia
- Stefan Uzunov, Bulgaria
- Simon Davie, Android Device Developer, United Kingdom
- Nico Kaiser, Android Device Developer, Germany
- Roland Reitböck, Germany
- Filipp Novoyedov, Ukraine
- Enrique Pérez, Spain
- Jānis Grotus, Latvia
- Sukumar Patel, India
- Sanjin Raković, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Matěj Nevěřil, Czech Republic
- Nguyen Nhat Minh, Vietnam
- Varun Balakrishnan, India
- Jacob Ras, Android App Developer, The Netherlands
- Jakub Gorgol, Czech Republic
- André Höfer, Germany
- Albert Matic, Android Device Developer, The Philippines
- Danish Sheikh, Android Device Developer, United Kingdom
- Marco Zibull, Germany
- Sven Gauß, Germany
- Jan Germ van Gogh, The Netherlands
- Christos Vlachos, Greece
- Sylvia Zedewitz, Germany
- Steffen Kreutz, Germany
- Mark Birss, South Africa
- Boris Weigel, Germany
- Shrome Khanna, India
- Adrian Stöckl, Android Device Developer, Austria
- Peter Buzmakov, Russia
- Codrin Florian, Romania
- Prateek Jaswani, India
- Rakesh Kumar, India
- Aleksandar Andreev, Bulgaria
- Andreas Andersson, Sweden
- Jeremy Pelling, Devon
- Konstantin Shuplenkov, Russia
- Ankush Surana, India

- David Kunzler, Germany
- Eric Wong, Hong Kong
- Simon Schmidt, Germany
- Andrew Crowe, United Kingdom
- Timo Siedenburg, Germany
- Sandu Adrian, Romania
- Omar Al Matar, Jordan
- Florian Mikoleit, Germany
- Philipp Lenk, Germany
- Jamie Sharpe, Android Device Developer, United Kingdom
- Adam Brett-Meszaros, Hungary
- Mikolaj Kochanski, Poland
- Ramiro Fernandez, Australia
- Rick Ohlendorf, United Kingdom
- Simon Weichold, Germany
- Yannick Müller, Germany
- Nathan Wootton, United Kingdom
- Zyotty, Indonesia
- Rayleigh Chang, New Zealand
- Chris, Indonesia
- Stanislav Troyeglazov, Kazakhstan
- Popescu Constantin, Romania
- Grigoriy Maslov, Russia
- Martin Floimayr, Austria
- Artem Genov, Russia
- Dries Roggeman, Belgium
- Toni Cvetkovski, Android Device Developer, Macedonia
- Stanislav Stoev, Android Device Developer. Bulgaria
- Hairong Zhu, Android App Developer, China
- Guillaume Peltier, Android App Developer, France
- Daniel Greff, Germany
- Dominik Heidler, Android App Developer, Germany
- Jeroen Admiraal, The Netherlands
- Marcin Kulik, Poland
- Atul Awasthi, Android Device Developer, India
- Hassaan Zahid, Pakistan
- Frank B., Android Device Developer, United States
- Tung Hoang, Vietnam
- Faisal ibne Mizan, Bangladesh
- Chavdar Ivanov, Bulgaria
- Nurvianto Bayusuputra, Singapore/Indonesia
- Pat McNamee, United Kingdom
- Boris Borisov, Android Device Developer, Russia

- Venian Grigorov, Android Device Developer, Bulgaria
- Joakim Berglund, Android App Developer, Sweden
- Georgi Markov, Android Device Developer, Bulgaria
- Topias Korpi, Finland
- Declan Harkin, United Kingdom
- Atanas Abgelov, Android Device Developer, Bulgaria
- Svetoslav Ivanov, Android App Developer, Bulgaria
- Andrew Crowe, Android App Developer, United Kingdom
- Dimitar Dragomirov, Android Device Developer, Bulgaria
- Mayank Nagori, India
- Tim Ragnwald, Sweden
- Kazeem Akano, Android Device Developer, Nigeria
- Craig Pugh, United Kingdom
- Max Grishaev, Russia
- Chatenet Philippe, Android Device Developer, France
- Mike Dyne, United Kingdom
- Daniel Heise, Germany
- Pietro Marrone, Android App Developer, Italy
- Mert Gökdeniz, Turkey
- Kevin Labre, France
- Karol Mazurek, Poland
- Jack Plummer, United Kingdom
- Milena Anders, Germany
- Gordon Morrison, United Kingdom
- Mario Todisco, Italy
- Devkota Sagar, Android App Developer, Nepal
- Anaz Haidhar, Android App Developer, Malaysia
- Leim Vasquez, Philippines
- Faraud Charly, Android Device Developer, France
- Patrick Nauerz, Android Device Developer, Germany
- Siegfried Krug, Germany
- Søren Lodberg, Denmark
- Federico Fernández, Android App Developer, Spain
- Rui Miguel Ramos Campos, Android App Developer, Portugal
- Kartikk R. Pandoan, Android App Developer, India
- Arjit Seth, India
- Vojtěch Hodek, Czech Republic
- Mike Bjorndal, Android App Developer, Denmark
- Alex Stone, Android App Developer, United Kingdom
- Oleg Martinez, Android App Developer, Ukraine
- Nathaniel Manansala, Philippines
- Ruslan Fazullin, Android Device Developer, Russia
- Ayush Sachdevaa, India

- Temuri Natsvlishvili, Georgia, Android App Developer
- Sergei Verzilin, Russia
- Ian Kavanagh, Android App Developer, Ireland
- Julius Richter, Germany
- Matt Grey, United Kingdom
- Jason Longwell, Android App Developer, United States
- Andrew Dickson, Hong Kong
- Okan Türay, Android App Developer, Turkey
- Mario Arisi, Italy
- Alexander Garz, Germany
- Herbert Zojer, Austria
- Ben Pyett, Android Device Developer, United Kingdom
- Waldemar Oliveira, Android App Developer, Portugal
- Cemil Onturk, United Kingdom
- Craig Antosiewicz, Australia
- Alex King, United States
- Mathias Weißbach, Germany
- Spiros Gallios, Greece
- Daniël de Vette, The Netherlands
- Daniel Wandrei, Germany
- Roberto Tyley, Android App Developer, United Kingdom
- Karsten Kalkwarf, Germany
- René-Maximilian Malsky, Germany
- Philipp Drexler, Android Device Developer, Germany
- Christian Pieper, Germany
- Viktor Ruppel, Germany
- Sascha Hofmann, Android App Developer, Germany
- Stanislav Kulichikhin, Russia
- Holger Plath, Germany
- John Baginsky, Android App Developer, United States
- Christian Hermann, Germany
- Louis Glessner, Android Device Developer, United States
- Richard W., Android App Developer, Germany
- Mostafa A., Android App Developer, Germany
- Ralph Rohner, Android Device Developer, Austria
- Holger Plath, Germany
- René König, Germany
- Lukas Stracke, Android App Developer, Austria
- Leonhard Dittmann, Germany
- Petr Sluva, Android App Developer, Czech Republic
- Sven Ackermann, Android Device Developer, Germany
- Julian Wolter, Android App Developer, Germany
- Thomas Schmidt-Esterle, Germany

- Omar García, Mexico
- Sebastian Standau, Android Device Developer, Germany
- Florian Langer, Android App Developer, Germany
- Puja Saputra, Indonesia
- Christian Herdegen, Germany
- Jay Shurman, Android App Developer, Australia
- Dan Cohen, Android App Developer, United Kingdom
- James Gregory, Android App Developer, United Kingdom
- Richard Couzens, France
- Todd Murphy, Android Device Developer, United Kingdom
- Yackine Tadjou, France
- Lyner Ly, United Kingdom
- André Schmidt, Germany
- Clément Devos, Android App Developer, France
- Sem Derksen, The Netherlands
- Ari Ardiansyah, Android Device Developer, Indonesia
- Petrov Andrey, Android App Developer, Ukraine
- Tom Brookes, Android App Developer, United Kingdom
- Danilo Garbarino, Android App Developer, Italy
- Nicola Fanzini, Android Device Developer, Spain
- Alejandro Acosta, Android Device Developer, Spain
- Darrien Glasser, Android App Developer, United States
- Tim Langer, Germany
- Marco Schepp, Germany
- Alejandro Tejera Perez, Android App Developer, Spain
- Ming Chang, Android Device Developer, China
- lakov Markov, Russia
- Adrian Klein, Android Device Developer, Germany
- Alexander Bessonov, Android App Developer, Russia
- Razi Ul Hassan, Android App Developer, Pakistan
- Cyril Kosonogov, Android App Developer, Russia
- Umair Ahmad, Pakistan
- Kirill Avilkin, Android App Developer, Russia
- Manuel Muñoz Vegas, Android App Developer, Spain
- Jan Zila, Android Device Developer, Switzerland

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