pts Media/Communication Company/Economy

Volla OS 12: More intelligence. More convenience. More time. ☐

The fourth generation of the mobile operating system for smartphones appears in May



[Photos]

Remscheid (pts) -

With the latest version of its mobile operating system, Hallo Welt Systeme is consistently developing its concept for more data protection and intelligent operation: New features include AI-based speech recognition and - synthesis, the integration of messages from Signal Messenger, further developed security functions, and a refreshed design. Special features are available for the new Volla Phone X23, which will ship in May.

The novelties at a glance

- Open source speech recognition and synthesis without cloud
- Integration of Signal and its Messenger functions in the Start app Android 12
- base operating system with advanced security features Templates for the
- firewall in the security settings.
- Optional microG for increased compatibility for apps that require Google Play services
- Refreshed design with unified font and new lock screen Special features for Volla Phone
- X23 with light ring for music and calls

The concept behind the Volla OS is the immediate operation of a smartphone without detours via countless apps. These still exist, but they are not in the foreground. They are still there, but they are not in the foreground. The so-called springboard is found in the Volla OS where apps are usually displayed in a grid. It contains a text field and a red dot. That's it. Pure minimalism. That not only keeps your head clear, but also saves time.

In the text field, users start writing and the system recognizes the intention to suggest a completion or suitable functions. This can be a text message to a friend, a reminder for the calendar or a search on the Internet. Users can also trigger a call this way.

The user can access the app overview with a simple swipe gesture to the right. Here, too, there is a Special feature. The apps are grouped automatically. Frequently used apps are listed in the first group. If you prefer a classic look, you can display the app overview at the start.

Details about the Volla OS and the Volla Phone can be found on the website: volla.online

Volla OS knows the needs of users

In Volla OS 12, a convenient voice input is now introduced. The function continues the idea of the intelligent text field away. This makes it even easier to enter a note on the go or to call up information you just need.

Technically, the young company relies on open source software for artificial intelligence. Unlike all other technologies for Siri, Cortana or Alexa, this is executed exclusively on the smartphone, without a connection to a cloud. Both, the visible source code and the independence from the cloud, are part of the DNA of the operating system that implements uncompromising data and privacy protection.

In addition to converting speech to text, speech synthesis is also part of the operating system so that the smartphone can read texts aloud. This also enables the use of voice assistants, such as the open-source app Dido, which previously had to be installed later.

Secure communication directly from the launcher

In the Volla OS home screen, users can directly access dynamically compiled content: recent Contacts, notes, news or text messages. "From the beginning, the idea was to have an overview in one central place without having to open multiple apps. With Volla OS, users can now also find their Signal messages in the compilation of messages and can reply to them directly," says Hallo Welt Systeme founder Dr. Jörg Wurzer.

Designed for longevity

With Volla OS 12, the smartphone brand with production in Germany delivers on a promise: The long-term support for their device models. The fourth generation of the mobile operating system will also be available for the first-generation Volla Phone, which shipped with Volla OS 9 in 2020. Manufacturers often only offer two major system updates over a two-year period. First, Volla OS 12 will be available on the current flagship model, Volla Phone 22.

New security functions

Volla OS 12 is based on Android 12 and thus also introduces new security features, such as the system-wide Disabling of the camera and microphone, which applies to all apps and has been requested by many users. For increased compatibility, the optional activation of microG is possible, which is an open-source alternative to the Connection to Google Play services allowed.

The unique security feature of Volla OS 12, which allows users to temporarily block apps or Internet addresses, has become a standard feature. For the latter, users can create address lists for trackers,

Download and apply advertising or malware as a template instead of having to laboriously set up a firewall yourself.

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Parents can use the security function to protect their children and determine which apps they can use and which pages they are allowed to access on the Internet, for example those of the school. Hallo Welt Systeme has launched its own community project on the Github platform to compile editorially checked sites suitable for children and is looking forward to further supporters of the project.

Clear design language on all levels

The system settings also come in a clearer, fresher design with Full OS 12. The lock screen has also been adapted with a generous time display that adapts to the space needed for notifications. An equally clear system font is now used uniformly throughout the system, including the Start app - called "Springboard" in Volla OS.

Special features for the new Volla Phone X23

The latest model of the rugged smartphone, which will ship in May, features an additional button on the left side as well as an LED light ring to power the rear-facing dual camera and associated flash.

Users can define how they want to use this light ring, e.g. as a signal for missed messages and calls, as an indicator of charging mode or for discreet indication of an incoming call when the device is muted in a conference, for example.

A very special function is the coupling of the light ring with the sound output, which then pulsates with the rhythm and frequencies of music. A real eye-catcher and perfect for music lovers, whether with Spotify or your own

Music library on the smartphone.

Users can also determine the function for the additional button, for example, to call up a voice assistant or to see the overview of the currently opened apps.

Volla OS exclusively on Volla Phones

Available is the open source operating system Volla OS exclusively on Volla Phone models, which are available in stores or online at Hallo Welt Systeme. Existing Volla Phone owners will soon find the version in the system updates.

Details about the Volla OS and the Volla Phone can be found on the website: volla.online

About the company

Hallo Welt System was founded in 2017 by Dr. Jörg Wurzer. After three years of research and development, the company introduced the first Volla Phone in 2020 with a crowdfunding campaign. With the Volla Phone and the Volla Phone X, Hallo Welt Systeme UG from Remscheid completely rethought the "smartphone" concept two years ago. As an alternative to the variant with the in-house development Volla OS, the devices are also available with the mobile Linux version Ubuntu Touch, for which around 30% of Volla customers have opted so far.

Together with other small and medium-sized companies and organizations, Volla-Phone founder Dr. Jörg Wurzer has launched an alliance for more independence, self-determination, privacy protection that aims to advance issues such as data protection, digital self-determination, open source, privacy and independence from the big technology companies. Partners include Gigaset Communications, the UBports Foundation, the VPN provider Hide.me, the search engines Startpage and Metager, and the secure, encrypted e-mail service StartMail.

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