Ex-Google Staff Admits Google Was Using YouTube To Kill Internet Explorer

By <u>Vanshika Malhotra</u>

May 4, 2019

Google Data collection

Google has been <u>long-accused</u> of following manipulative practices to rise above all rival web browsers, and indeed it is now the most popular one out of the lot. Amidst the accusations, an ex-Google employee has admitted that Google followed such methods.

Chris Zacharias, a former YouTube developer, via his <u>blog post</u> has suggested that Google was involved in a **conspiracy** by YouTube developers (which it bought in 2005) in 2009.

susbcribe-to-fossbytes

The incident was all about killing **Internet Explorer 6** or IE6 which led to the decline of the Microsoft web browser's share.

Tired of updating the **IE UI** every one or two weeks, the developers wished to get rid of IE6 by not being open about it.

Hence, the team decided to show up a **warning** for the same instead of doing that directly. The notice to end support for the

web browser was only visible to Internet Explorer users, and this led to IE's share drop from 19% to 10% in the market.
The warning read: "We will be phasing out support for your browser soon. Please upgrade to one of these more modern browsers."
While many (the PR team, lawyers, and more) approached the team to take off the warning banner, it was eventually discovered that Googlers wanted to end support for Internet Explorer and it indeed happened.

This is not the first time Google has been accused of following such practices, and an <u>ex-Mozilla employee suggested</u> that Google took over Mozilla by its 'amateur tactics.'

Google has been under negative light for reaching the top by unfair means. However, is it wrong or people are merely venting their frustration now?