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Friday August 6, 2010

PhoneTell Beefs Up Your Android Phone's Caller ID

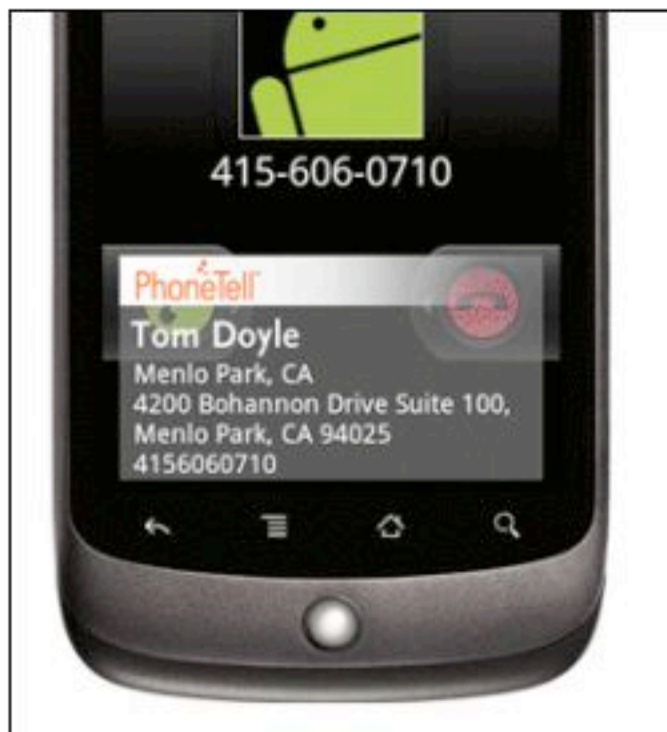
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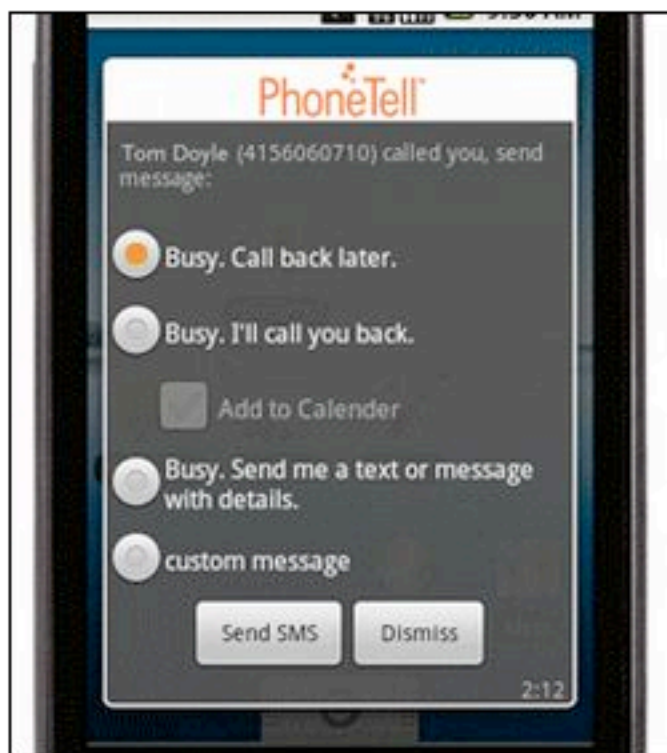


When you receive a call on your Android phone from a user in your contact list, you see a screen that displays the caller's phone number and their name. If you have a photo assigned to them, you'll see that as well. From there you can accept the call or decline it. Unfortunately, the default caller ID doesn't give you more options or information than that.

Enter [PhoneTell](#), a new Android app that displays much more information about the caller if it's available, including their phone number and the location from which they are calling. The app even allows you to send the caller a short SMS if you decline their call, which lets them know you're busy and will call them

back.

PhoneTell relies heavily on your caller's contact information being either already in your contacts or publicly available, so if your caller has an unlisted number or is calling from abroad, it is unlikely PhoneTell will be able to dig up the number. The service does claim, however, that it has proprietary algorithms that can scour public data for contact information that is relevant to you and accurate so you see more hits than misses when you get a call.



The enhanced caller ID functionality is only one of PhoneTell's biggest features. Additionally, the app allows you to acknowledge and respond to a caller without having to take their call. For example, if you're on a conference call at your desk and your mobile phone rings, you can tap PhoneTell and tell it to reply "Busy. I'll call you back," and even add the call-back as an appointment on your phone's calendar.

You can also opt to tell your caller that you're busy and they should call back, that you're busy and they should send you an SMS with details on why they called, or you can create a custom message to the caller explaining why you didn't take their call or let them know

when you'll get back to them.

PhoneTell currently only supports Android phones, including older Android 1.5/1.6 devices like the Droid Eris and the T-Mobile G1, and Android 2.1/2.2 devices like the Motorola Droid, Droid Incredible, Droid X, and the HTC EVO. The developers behind PhoneTell say that iPhone and BlackBerry versions of their app are on their way soon.

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Posted By: Alan Henry