



As this year in Consumer IT comes to a close, we get around to decide which industry stories were the most important. Was the HP split the biggest story of the year, or was it Windows reaching version 10? Take a moment to gather your Top 10 before comparing it with ours below!

HP breaks up: In a bid to turn its fortunes around HP got to split itself in two, with one half taking PCs and printers while the other handles corporate hardware and services operations. This means HP is effectively two companies, HP Inc and Hewlett-Packard Enterprise.

PC market sees improvement: Analyst appear to agree that the PC market returns to growth in 2014, following a difficult 2013. For instance, IDC says Q3 2014 EMEA PC shipments were up by 10.3% Y-o-Y, with shipments driven by W. European markets, while [Context says Q4 2014 W. European PC shipments are up by 16.9%.](#)

Dixons and Carphone Warehouse merge: May 2014 saw the creation of a so-called "merger of equals" as Dixons and Carphone Warehouse reached an agreement on "Dixons Carphone," a mega-retailer with 3000 stores (across Currys, PC World and CPW outlets) and combined sales worth nearly £11 billion.

Phones 4u closes down: Speaking of retail news, 2014 saw the controversial demise mobile retailer of Phones 4U, following its loss of EE, Vodafone, O2 and Three business. It leaves behind [a pile of debt worth £168 million](#) , as well as 365 closed outlets.

