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Data management at the center of antitrust investigations into Big Tech by US Justice Department

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Large tech companies are facing antitrust reviews by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and a multistate group of states' attorneys. The companies in question are Amazon.com, Inc.; Facebook, Inc.; Apple Inc. and Google LLC. The DOJ and FTC reportedly split responsibilities; the DOJ received jurisdiction over Apple and Google, and the FTC received jurisdiction to investigate Amazon and Facebook.

The emergence of a probe involving state attorneys general adds further complexity to the data management landscape in the U.S. The implementation of the GDPR in Europe and several similar pieces of legislation that have emerged in Brazil, Japan and China have led to discussions of a federal privacy law in the U.S. Those discussions have touched on issues of data privacy, cybersecurity and cyberespionage, competition, online platform business models, and now antitrust issues.

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