Lenovo Talks RIM Bid to Boost Mobile Business

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Beijing PC giant Lenovo is considering options to grow its mobile business, including a possible deal with RIM.

CFO Wong Wai Ming told [1] Bloomberg it is looking at ““We are looking at all opportunities -- RIM and many others,” in an effort to grow its mobile business and that it will have "no hesitation if the right opportunity comes along that could benefit us and shareholders.”

The news comes just days after RIM CEO Thorsten Heins reiterated [2] his thoughts on a possible sale of BlackBerry's hardware division, a move the company's considered along with the possible licensing of its upcoming BlackBerry 10 OS to other handset makers.

Speculation about RIM's future after the Jan. 30 unveiling of the company's new platform and two new devices, the BlackBerry Z10 and X10, has caused the company's stock to climb.

Any deal for RIM could face strict review [3] from the Canadian government in order to assess the net benefit such a sale would have for the country as a whole, based on a provision in the Investment Canada Act.

A Gartner report gave Lenovo a 15 percent market share in China in 3Q 2012, good enough for second best in the country behind Samsung, and the company has continued to expand into markets like India and Indonesia.

As of 1:46 p.m. CST, RIM stock is up 2.7 percent to $17.83.

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