

Offer puts value of at least \$6.5B on Facebook

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(AP) -- How much is Facebook worth? A Russian investment firm appears to put it at \$6.5 billion to \$10 billion.

The investment group, Digital Sky Technologies, said Monday it will buy up to \$100 million worth of Facebook shares from current and former employees. At the price the firm would pay, \$14.77 per share, the Internet networking company would be worth about \$6.5 billion.

In May, Digital Sky bought \$200 million worth of preferred shares in Facebook. That valued the company at roughly \$10 billion, but those shares are worth more because they come with more rights. Facebook's open-market price would likely fall between the values implied by the preferred and common shares.

A true test would come if Facebook pursued an [initial public offering](#), which founder and CEO [Mark Zuckerberg](#) has said he is no hurry to do.

At the very least, it seems Facebook is worth less than \$15 billion, which was implied in 2007 when Microsoft bought a 1.6 percent stake in the company's preferred shares for \$240 million.

But based on Digital Sky's investment it is worth more than the \$3.7 billion value that Facebook placed on itself after the Microsoft deal, according to details revealed last year in a legal settlement.

Based in London and Moscow, Digital Sky also holds a stake in vKontakte, a Russian social network that is much more popular in that country than Facebook. If its \$100 million tender offer is fully paid out, the company will end up with a 3.5 percent stake in Facebook.

The offer is not open to Zuckerberg and other [Facebook](#) executives.

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