

# China's Tencent buys Google-backed social networking firm

August 24 2010

---



Pictured is the logo for Tencent Holdings. The mainland Internet company has bought Google-backed Chinese social networking firm Comsenz for more than 60 million dollars, the companies and a media report said.

Mainland Internet company Tencent Holdings has bought Google-backed Chinese social networking firm Comsenz for more than 60 million dollars, the companies and a media report said.

Tencent, based in the southern boomtown of Shenzhen, will seek to link accounts from Comsenz's Discuz! platform to its popular instant messaging service QQ, the firms said in a statement.

Investors in Beijing-based Comsenz, which makes software for posting messages on websites, include [Google](#) and two US venture capital firms -- Sequoia Capital and Morningside Ventures.

The two companies did not disclose the value of the deal but a report

carried in the China Business News said it was worth more than 60 million dollars, citing unnamed sources familiar with the situation.

China has the world's largest Internet population with around 420 million users, according to official figures.

Neither Tencent or Comsenz have specified the size of Google's investment in the [social networking](#) firm.

The acquisition came after Google said earlier this year it would no longer bow to government censors and effectively shut down its mainland search engine, re-routing mainland users to its uncensored site in Hong Kong.

As well as QQ, Hong Kong-listed Tencent operates various online services, including games, [web portal](#) QQ.com, search engine soso.com and a mobile portal.

(c) 2010 AFP

Citation: China's Tencent buys Google-backed social networking firm (2010, August 24)  
retrieved 25 April 2024 from

<https://phys.org/news/2010-08-china-tencent-google-backed-social-networking.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--