

PC maker Lenovo says profit up 25 percent

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(AP) -- Chinese personal computer maker Lenovo said Thursday its quarterly profit rose 25 percent on double-digit sales growth in developing markets.

Net profit for the three months ending Dec. 31 was \$100 million, or 98 cents per share, compared with \$80 million in the same period of 2009, Lenovo said. Its [global sales](#) rose 22 percent to \$5.8 billion.

Lenovo said sales in its home China market rose 18 percent over a year earlier to \$2.7 billion, while sales in other developing markets increased 34 percent to \$1.1 billion. Sales in the United States and Europe rose 22 percent to \$2 billion.

"We will invest in building our global brand, driving more product innovation and creating an even more efficient end-to-end business model," said CEO Yang Yuanqing in a statement. "We are confident we can continue to outgrow the market."

Lenovo has expanded aggressively outside China since it became a global competitor by acquiring IBM Corp.'s PC unit in 2005. Lenovo got into mobile Internet last year with the launch of a smart phone and two Web-linked portable computers.

In January, Lenovo and [NEC Corp.](#) announced they would combine their PC businesses in Japan in a move that gave the Chinese partner wider access to the Japanese market, where it had only a 5 percent share.

Lenovo is the fourth-largest PC maker and the NEC tie-up might push it above Taiwan's Acer Corp. to third place behind [Hewlett Packard](#) Co. and Dell Inc. The company has headquarters in Beijing and in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina.

Among other emerging markets, [Lenovo](#) said quarterly sales in India rose 62 percent and in Latin America by 31.4 percent.

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