

# Former Nortel execs acquitted of fraud

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A Canadian court on Monday acquitted three top executives of former high-flying telecom company Nortel accused of defrauding the now-defunct firm, citing a lack of evidence.

Ontario Superior Court Justice Frank Marrocco said prosecutors did not prove "beyond a reasonable doubt" accusations against chief executive Frank Dunn, [chief financial officer](#) Douglas Beatty and controller Michael Gollogly.

The trio was accused of scheming, in 2002 and 2003, to pocket millions of dollars in bonuses by making it appear as if Nortel was doing better than it was, when it was actually failing.

The defense acknowledged accounting errors were made in the middle of a major restructuring at the company, but refuted suggestions of a conspiracy or fraud.

Nortel, once Canada's largest firm, filed for bankruptcy in 2009 after a string of accounting scandals and was sold off piecemeal.

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