

Thermo Fisher reportedly nears deal for Life Tech

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(AP)—Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. is reportedly nearing a deal to buy Life Technologies Corp., a maker of genetic testing equipment, for almost \$12 billion.

Thermo Fisher's bid for Life Technologies topped \$70 a share, beating out bids from other suitors, including the Blackstone Group, the Carlyle Group and other private equity firms, according to published reports. Life Technologies' [stock](#) closed Friday at \$68.

Life Technologies, based in Carlsbad, California, said in January that it had hired Deutsche Bank and the boutique bank Moelis & Co. to help with its strategic review. That's usually a sign a company is considering putting itself up for sale. Since that announcement, the company's stock has climbed 24 percent.

Calls to [Life Technologies](#) and Thermo Fisher, based in Waltham, Massachusetts, were not immediately returned.

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