

Apple-Beats deal one of biggest in tech sector

May 29 2014

Apple's purchase of Beats Music and Beats Electronics [in a deal worth \\$3 billion](#) is one of the largest acquisitions ever in the technology sector.

Here are some other notable deals involving US tech companies, in order of dollar amount from largest to smallest:

+ HEWLETT-PACKARD BUYS COMPAQ - SEPTEMBER 2001

US technology giant Hewlett-Packard buys Compaq Computer for \$25 billion in a bid to compete with IBM.

+ FACEBOOK BUYS WHATSAPP - FEBRUARY 2014

The world's biggest social network Facebook bets big on mobile with an eye-popping cash-and-stock [deal](#) worth up to \$19 billion for smartphone messaging service WhatsApp. Regulators have yet to green light the deal.

+ GOOGLE BUYS MOTOROLA MOBILITY - AUGUST 2011

Internet search giant Google buys the handset business of Motorola for \$12.5 billion in a bid to challenge Apple in the [smartphone market](#). Less than three years later, Google sold Motorola to China's Lenovo for \$2.91 billion.

+ HEWLETT-PACKARD BUYS AUTONOMY - AUGUST 2011

US technology giant Hewlett-Packard buys British enterprise software

company Autonomy for \$10.24 billion. US authorities later open an investigation amid HP accusations that Autonomy had engaged in "accounting improprieties."

+ MICROSOFT BUYS SKYPE - MAY 2011

Microsoft buys Internet voice and video leader Skype for \$8.5 billion, the largest acquisition ever by the US software giant.

+ ORACLE BUYS SUN - APRIL 2009

US business software giant Oracle buys struggling Sun Microsystems and its Java programming language for \$7.4 billion.

+ MICROSOFT BUYS NOKIA - SEPTEMBER 2013

Microsoft buys the handset business of former market leader Nokia for \$7.2 billion in an effort to catch up to rivals Apple and Google in the smartphone market.

+ MICROSOFT BUYS AQUANTIVE - MAY 2007

Microsoft pays \$6 billion for online advertising firm aQuantive. At the time, the price is deemed too high. Five years later, the tech giant takes a \$6.2 billion writedown to reflect the slump in value of its online services division, largely related to the aQuantive deal.

+ GOOGLE BUYS NEST LABS - JANUARY 2014

Google says it is buying smart thermostat start-up Nest in a deal valued at \$3.2 billion, continuing its move into consumer electronics hardware.

+ GOOGLE BUYS DOUBLECLICK - MARCH 2008

The Internet titan seals the deal on its purchase of online ad tracking firm DoubleClick for \$3.1 billion.

+ FACEBOOK BUYS OCULUS - MARCH 2014

Facebook announces a \$2 billion deal to buy Oculus, a start-up behind virtual reality headgear.

+ GOOGLE BUYS YOUTUBE - OCTOBER 2006

Internet search giant Google buys online video platform YouTube in October 2006 from its founders, Steve Chen and Chad Hurley, for \$1.65 billion.

+ EBAY BUYS PAYPAL - JUNE 2002

Online auction house eBay buys online payments firm PayPal for \$1.5 billion.

+ YAHOO BUYS TUMBLR - MAY 2013

Former Google executive Marissa Mayer makes her biggest purchase since taking over as CEO of Yahoo, buying the popular blogging platform Tumblr for \$1.1 billion.

+ FACEBOOK BUYS INSTAGRAM - APRIL 2012

Facebook offers \$1 billion for hot smartphone photo-sharing service Instagram. The purchase of Instagram was Facebook's largest until the WhatsApp deal.

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