



San Jose telecom firm 8x8 reportedly exploring sale

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Telecommunications company 8x8 Inc. is considering a potential sale, [according to Reuters](#).

Citing anonymous sources close to the San Jose-based telecom company, Reuters reported that 8x8 working with Morgan Stanley to explore interest from other companies and private-equity firms.

The telecom sector has been experiencing consolidation due to larger companies like Cisco Systems offering more cloud-based solutions and the fact that the Trump administration is expected to be beneficial for mergers and acquisitions, JPMorgan stated in a recent research report. "Spring will bring the end of the Broadcast incentive auction and the start of a new round of M&A discussions around wireless, cable, and telecom companies," JPMorgan said.

8x8, with a market cap of about \$1.4 billion, has about 900 employees at its San Jose headquarters, according to its LinkedIn page. The company's competitors include Belmont-based RingCentral, Vonage Holdings Corp, and Sunnyvale-based ShoreTel Inc.

8x8's customers include McDonald's and GameStop, which use the company's internet telephone services to run their stores for monthly fees. In the last few years, the company expanded its offerings to include call center software.

8x8 shares jumped almost 10 percent on Friday on the news of the reported sale. Shares have gained approximately 12.9 percent year-to-date.

According to the company's most recent earnings that ended Dec. 31, its revenue showed a rise of 19 percent year-over-year to \$63.6 million.

Last week, 8x8 hired Dejan Deklich, former vice president of San Francisco-based company Splunk, as its senior vice president of global R&D.

8X8 CEO Vik Verma and Chief Financial Officer Mary Ellen Genovese will be presenting at the Morgan Stanley Technology, Media & Telecom Conference on Wednesday, March 1 in San Francisco.

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