

WSJ: Best Buy Considers China Exit

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Best Buy is considering sale or partnership for its Chinese operations the Wall Street Journal reports, as the retailer is looking to increase focus further on its home US.

Analysts suggest the Best Buy's Chinese operations-- namely Five Star and Best Buy Mobile-- are worth up to \$300 million. The retailer already closed some large-format Five Star outlets this year, and its Chinese store count clocks at 190.

Why would Best Buy want to exit the most populous country in the world, though? The WSJ cites tough online competition hurting international division sales, (un)surprisingly enough.

A sale would also provide Best Buy with more cash to invest in segments such as mobile and online retail, as well as enable it to focus further on its home territories.

Best Buy currently operates in the US, Canada, China and Mexico, having wholly exited Europe last year with the sale of its European joint venture stake to Carphone Warehouse.

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