

Rival Chain Targets Japan's Convenience Store Giant

Description

Getty Images A 7-Eleven convenience store, operated by Seven & i Holdings, in Kawasaki, Japan.
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7-Eleven, the world's largest convenience store chain

The recent acquisition bid for 7-Eleven by a Canadian suitor has rocked Japan, where a local giant has never before been purchased by a foreign entity.

Historically, Japanese corporations have been more inclined to acquire international businesses rather than be bought out themselves.

Boasting 85,000 stores across 20 nations, 7-Eleven's reputation for affordable yet delectable meals has made it a standout player in countries like Japan and Thailand.

The CEO proudly noted, "We surpass McDonald's and Starbucks in store count," highlighting their massive presence in the market.

Approximately a quarter of 7-Eleven's stores are in Japan, with around 10,000 operating in the United States.

Dominating the Market

In contrast, the Quebec-based Alimentation Couche-Tard, with its Circle K chain, boasts nearly 17,000 outlets in over 30 territories.

This move has positioned Seven & i's value over \$30 billion, signaling a significant shift in market dynamics.

Although the offer is in early stages, the deal faces scrutiny from competition regulators due to its potential impact.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Acquisition** /,æk.wɪ'zɪʃ.ən/ (noun): The act of obtaining or gaining possession usually referring to a business takeover.
2. **Corporation** /,kɔ:r.pə'reɪ.ʃən/ (noun): A large company or group of companies authorized to act as a single entity.
3. **Dynamics** /dai'næm.iks/ (noun): The forces or properties that stimulate growth development or change within a system or process.
4. **Scrutiny** /'skru:.ti.ni/ (noun): Critical observation or examination.

5. **Inclined** /ɪn'klaɪnd/ (adjective): Having a tendency to do something; disposed.
6. **Status** /'steɪ.təs/ (noun): The relative social professional or other standing of someone or something.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. Who made an acquisition bid for 7-Eleven?

- Option: A Japanese corporation
- Option: A Canadian suitor
- Option: An American conglomerate
- Option: A European investment firm

2. How many stores does 7-Eleven have across 20 nations?

- Option: 50,000
- Option: 65,000
- Option: 85,000
- Option: 100,000

3. Where is the majority of 7-Eleven stores located?

- Option: United States
- Option: Canada
- Option: Japan
- Option: Thailand

4. Which other company mentioned has nearly 17,000 outlets?

- Option: McDonald's
- Option: Starbucks
- Option: Circle K
- Option: Costco

5. What is the approximate value of Seven & i after the acquisition bid?

- Option: \$15 billion
- Option: \$25 billion
- Option: \$30 billion
- Option: \$40 billion

6. Why is the deal facing scrutiny?

- Option: Environmental concerns
- Option: Taxation issues
- Option: Labor disputes
- Option: Potential impact

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. A Canadian suitor 2. 85,000 3. Japan 4. Circle K 5. \$30 billion 6. Potential impact

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What is the term for the suspension of work or services by an employer during a dispute?

- Option: lockout
- Option: arbitration
- Option: repercussions
- Option: facilitated

2. Which term refers to the process of buying another company or part of a company?

- Option: Acquisition
- Option: Corporation
- Option: Dynamics
- Option: Scrutiny

3. What is the term for the impetus gained by a moving object?

- Option: Pivotal
- Option: Momentum
- Option: Consolidating
- Option: Ecosystem

4. Which term describes a sudden powerful forward or upward movement like an increase in activity?

- Option: Surge
- Option: Turbulence
- Option: Significant
- Option: Exacerbated

5. What is the term for expecting or predicting a particular event or outcome?

- Option: Anticipate

Option: Declines
Option: Prospects
Option: Exclusive

6. Which term indicates that something is happening or existing now?

Option: Highlights
Option: Recommendations
Option: Currently
Option: Appliances

7. What is the process in which a neutral third party helps resolve a dispute?

Option: Inclined
Option: Status
Option: Retested
Option: Arbitration

8. Which term describes something that is limited to only one person or group?

Option: Pivotal
Option: Momentum
Option: Exclusive
Option: Curated

9. What term refers to decreases or reductions in a particular area?

Option: Ecosystem
Option: Surge
Option: Declines
Option: Prospects

10. Which term means the most important or interesting parts of something?

Option: Turmoil
Option: Boost
Option: Highlights
Option: Sadness

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The company faced severe _____ due to the controversial decision.

12. It is important for organizations to _____ their data against cyber threats.

13. The company is _____ its position in the market through strategic mergers.

14. The project team discussed the changing _____ of the industry.

15. The new product has promising _____ in the international market.

16. The museum has an expertly _____ collection of artifacts.

17. The company announced a major _____ of a competitor.

18. The market experienced financial _____ due to geopolitical events.

19. The committee discussed the current _____ of the project.

20. She was _____ to accept the job offer because of the attractive benefits.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The lockout by the management led to a prolonged dispute with the workers.
22. The teacher decided to intervene when the students started arguing in class.
23. The financial records were under intense scrutiny during the audit.
24. The CEO's decision proved to be pivotal in turning around the company's fortunes.
25. The conservationists worked to protect the delicate ecosystem of the national park.
26. The increase in sales was a significant achievement for the small business.
27. The lack of communication only exacerbated the already tense situation.
28. The artist's portfolio showcases the highlights of her career.
29. The expert panel will provide recommendations for improving the healthcare system.
30. The showroom displayed the latest kitchen appliances for sale.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. lockout 2. Acquisition 3. Momentum 4. Surge 5. Anticipate 6. Currently 7. Arbitration 8. Exclusive 9. Declines 10. Highlights

Gap-Fill: 11. repercussions 12. safeguard 13. Consolidating 14. Dynamics 15. Prospects 16. Curated 17. Acquisition



18. Turbulence 19. Status 20. Inclined

Matching sentence: 1. lockout 2. intervene 3. scrutiny 4. pivotal 5. ecosystem 6. significant 7. exacerbated
8. highlights 9. recommendations 10. appliances

CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL4

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