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MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS · Published 6 hours ago

Charles Schwab's \$26B offer for TD Ameritrade may jump start M&A

Merger mania may heat up thanks to Charles Schwab and TD Ameritrade.

Schwab to acquire TD Ameritrade for \$26B

Charles Schwab is buying TD Ameritrade for \$26 billion, sources tell FOX Business' Maria Bartiromo exclusively.

Charles Schwab's \$26 billion offer for TD Ameritrade, as reported by [FOX Business](#), could spark a flurry of corporate acquisitions.

The value of dealmaking in the Americas this year is around \$1.76 trillion, just slightly ahead of 2018's \$1.65 trillion, according to data from Dealogic shared with FOX Business. Concerns have been mounting that deals could slow amid corporate caution fanned by the briefly inverted yield curve as well as weakness in the U.S. manufacturing sector, which makes up about 10 percent of the economy.

"Just four months ago we were talking about being on the edge of a recession," David Dietze, president and chief investment strategist at Point View Wealth Management, told FOX Business' Charles Payne on "Making Money."

The economic soft patch "put pause in a lot of companies' plans to get bigger," but now that the economy is showing resilience, "we could play a little bit of catch-up" over the next six months, he said.

Speculation and news of corporate tie-ups, of considerable size, has started to percolate over the past few weeks.

Stock Symbol	BBT
Stock Name	BB&T CORP.
Stock Price	54.74
Stock Change	+0.56
Change %	+1.04%
Stock Symbol	STI
Stock Name	SUNTRUST BANKS
Stock Price	70.85
Stock Change	+0.75
Change %	+1.07%

On Wednesday, the [merger between BB&T and SunTrust Banks](#) received Federal Reserve approval. The transaction, expected to be completed before year-end, will create the sixth-largest U.S. bank by assets.

Stock Symbol	GS
Stock Name	GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP INC.
Stock Price	220.46
Stock Change	+2.23
Change %	+1.02%
Stock Symbol	BAC
Stock Name	BANK OF AMERICA CORP.
Stock Price	33.12
Stock Change	+0.28
Change %	+0.85%
Stock Symbol	MS
Stock Name	MORGAN STANLEY
Stock Price	49.12
Stock Change	+0.28
Change %	+0.57%

"I'm looking for where sectors have been dormant forever," Paul Schatz, Heritage Capital president, told Payne. One area in which Schatz predicts deals is regional banking, which he says is "screaming for Goldman, Morgan Stanley and Bank of America to get involved."

While the big banks haven't gotten involved with the regionals just yet, [FOX Business' Charlie Gasparino](#) reports [Goldman Sachs](#) may be eyeing the sector. Possible targets could include the \$92.9 billion U.S. Bank and the \$9.4 billion online broker E-Trade. He says bankers are expecting more mergers in the financial sector as firms look to get bigger and reduce costs.

Stock Symbol	ETFC
Stock Name	E*TRADE GROUP (E*TRADE BANK AG)
Stock Price	41.87
Stock Change	+0.28
Change %	+0.69%
Stock Symbol	USB
Stock Name	U.S. BANCORP INC.
Stock Price	59.98
Stock Change	+0.49
Change %	+0.82%

Earlier this month, the private-equity firm [KKR reportedly approached Walgreens Boots Alliance](#) about a go-private deal that would be the biggest leveraged buyout in history. At the time of KKR's approach, Walgreens had a market capitalization of almost \$56 billion, although analysts say the deal could be even larger.

Stock Symbol	WBA
Stock Name	WALGREENS BOOTS ALLIANCE INC.
Stock Price	60.51
Stock Change	-0.11
Change %	-0.18%

Another potential deal is a tie-up between Xerox and HP. Earlier this week, [HP rejected a \\$33 billion offer](#) from Xerox as too low. Xerox has said it could go to HP shareholders to try and win approval.

Stock Symbol	HPQ
Stock Name	HP INC.
Stock Price	20.02
Stock Change	+0.36
Change %	+1.86%
Stock Symbol	XRX
Stock Name	XEROX HOLDINGS
Stock Price	39.19
Stock Change	+0.50
Change %	+1.29%

And on Thursday, Reuters reported Unilever, Henkel and Colgate-Palmolive were looking to make a play for Coty's hair and beauty brands, valued at up to \$7 billion.

Schatz expects a "merger mania" before the bull market ends, though he concedes he's not sure it will get to the "outlandishly crazy" levels of the 1980s.

Conversation



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