



<http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/chi-0310080302oct08,1,5342612.story>

Notebaert in Motorola CEO search

Several executives contacted about replacing Galvin

By Barbara Rose
Tribune staff reporter

October 8, 2003

Richard Notebaert, chairman and chief executive of Qwest Communications International Inc., is among several candidates contacted in the search to replace Motorola Inc. CEO Christopher Galvin, according to sources familiar with the search.

The job would be a homecoming for the 55-year-old telecom veteran, who led Ameritech Corp. until its sale to SBC Communications Inc. in 1999 before jumping to equipment-maker Tellabs Inc. as CEO.

Denver's Qwest recruited him 16 months ago to replace Joseph Nacchio at the troubled former Baby Bell.

Notebaert could not be reached Tuesday. A Qwest spokesman said he was visiting customers. A Motorola spokeswoman said he was in Chicago with Galvin, at a luncheon sponsored by the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum with the Chicago Academy of Sciences. Galvin was accepting an award.

Spencer Stuart, the New York-based firm hired to assist Motorola's board in picking Galvin's replacement, said it does not comment on ongoing searches.

Notebaert is among a number of candidates contacted near the beginning of a weeks-long process that will decide whether Motorola's board recruits an outsider or elevates the company's No. 2 executive, Mike Zafirovski.

Zafirovski, 49, has strong internal support and the backing of many financial analysts who follow the company, but investors are clamoring for an outsider.

Motorola's announcement Monday that it plans to spin off its money-losing semiconductor business as a separate public company makes the Schaumburg company more attractive to candidates, analysts said.

"You're no longer beholden to an internal supplier" for chips, said Soundview Technology Group analyst Matt Hoffman. "You're unshackled a bit."

Nonetheless, a semiconductor executive is among those contacted in the search, sources said. Richard Sulpizio, 52, a director at Qualcomm, received a feeler, as did Sun Microsystems Inc.'s former president and chief operating officer, Edward Zander, 56.

Advertisement

SBC YAHOO! DSL
BUSINESS EDITION

Knock down more things in less time.

Sulpizio quit as Qualcomm's president and chief operating officer in 2001 after the company decided not to spin off its semiconductor business, which he had been in line to run. He could not be reached Tuesday.

Zander, who quit Sun last year, is a managing director at Menlo Park, Calif.-based private equity firm Silverlake Partners. He could not be reached.

Analysts and recruiters said Motorola's semiconductor spinoff appears to strengthen Zafirovski's chances because it focuses the company on his area of strength. He is credited with having returned the cell phone business to profitability.

"The platform becomes much more appropriate for an executive like Mike Z., given where he has spent most of his time at Motorola," said executive recruiter Peter Crist of Crist Associates.

Copyright © 2003, *Chicago Tribune*

Improved archives!

Searching [Chicagotribune.com](http://www.chicagotribune.com) archives back to 1985 is cheaper and easier than ever. New prices for multiple articles can bring your cost as low as 30 cents an article:

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/archives>