# SoftBank explores acquisition of Ampere Computing amid semiconductor race



SoftBank Group Corp., the Japanese technology conglomerate known for its significant investments in various tech companies, is reportedly in discussions to acquire Ampere Computing, as highlighted by Bnnbloomberg. This potential acquisition emphasizes SoftBank's ambitions to compete with global hyperscalers and major players in the semiconductor industry.

Ampere Computing has emerged as a notable contender in the data centre chip market, particularly with its advanced offerings that utilise Arm architecture. The company is recognised for its innovative chips, including the 192-core Polaris and the forthcoming 256-core Magnetrix, which are designed to efficiently manage demanding data centre workloads. As more industries turn towards AI-driven solutions, the capabilities offered by these processors are increasingly vital for modern infrastructure.

Acquiring Ampere would mark a significant step for SoftBank, which already maintains a majority stake in Arm Holdings, a company known for its chip design competencies. By integrating Ampere's advanced technology, SoftBank could broaden Arm's operations from primarily licensing chip designs to becoming a comprehensive chip manufacturer. This vision aligns closely with CEO Rene Haas's strategy to enhance Arm's presence in the lucrative data centre market, where demand for performance-driven processors is escalating.

The deal, however, remains speculative at this stage. There are indications that Ampere, which has the backing of Oracle, has been preparing for an initial public offering (IPO), suggesting a desire to retain its independence. Furthermore, for the acquisition to proceed, SoftBank would need to engage in negotiations with Oracle and the Carlyle Group, both of which are significant stakeholders in Ampere.

The ongoing discussions reflect the broader trends within the tech industry, where investment in artificial intelligence is accelerating. Analysts point out that the competition between processor makers like AMD and Intel is intensifying as companies seek to harness AI capabilities for improved operational efficiency and performance. The convergence of SoftBank's Graphcore AI accelerators and Ampere's processors could potentially create more competitive systems tailored for data centres, reinforcing SoftBank's position in the market.

These developments underscore the dynamic nature of the semiconductor landscape as organisations adapt to the growing demands of AI and data processing reliability. With the potential acquisition still in negotiation, the ramifications of such a move will unfold as SoftBank seeks to establish stronger footholds in the evolving technology sector.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

* <https://techresearchonline.com/news/softbank-plans-acquire-ampere-computing/> - This article corroborates SoftBank's consideration to acquire Ampere Computing to bolster its semiconductor portfolio and highlights the strategic importance of this acquisition for SoftBank's market expansion.
* <https://www.techpowerup.com/305392/data-center-cpu-landscape-allows-ampere-computing-to-gain-traction> - This source confirms Ampere Computing's growing presence in the data center market, particularly with its ARM-based processors, and provides data on its market share and competitive landscape.
* <https://siliconangle.com/2025/01/09/report-softbank-arm-acquire-server-chip-provider-ampere/> - This report details the potential acquisition of Ampere Computing by SoftBank and Arm, including the valuation and the strategic benefits of integrating Ampere's technology into SoftBank's portfolio.
* <https://siliconangle.com/2025/01/09/report-softbank-arm-acquire-server-chip-provider-ampere/> - This article mentions Ampere's advanced server processors, such as the AmpereOne M and the upcoming Aurora, and their significance in the data center market.
* <https://www.counterpointresearch.com/insights/data-center-cpu-market-amd-surpasses-intel-share-growth/> - This report provides insights into the data center CPU market, including the growth of ARM-based CPUs by companies like Ampere and the competitive dynamics between Intel, AMD, and other players.
* <https://techresearchonline.com/news/softbank-plans-acquire-ampere-computing/> - This article explains how the acquisition aligns with SoftBank's strategy to enhance Arm's presence in the data center market and expand its operations beyond just licensing chip designs.
* <https://siliconangle.com/2025/01/09/report-softbank-arm-acquire-server-chip-provider-ampere/> - This source mentions the potential for SoftBank to combine Ampere's CPUs with Graphcore's AI accelerators, creating more competitive systems for data centers.
* <https://www.techpowerup.com/305392/data-center-cpu-landscape-allows-ampere-computing-to-gain-traction> - This article highlights the increasing competition in the data center CPU market, particularly the rise of AMD and the decline of Intel's market share, which contextually supports the strategic importance of SoftBank's potential acquisition.
* <https://siliconangle.com/2025/01/09/report-softbank-arm-acquire-server-chip-provider-ampere/> - This report indicates that Ampere has been exploring options, including an initial public offering (IPO), and that SoftBank would need to negotiate with significant stakeholders like Oracle and the Carlyle Group.
* <https://techresearchonline.com/news/softbank-plans-acquire-ampere-computing/> - This article discusses the broader trends in the tech industry, including the accelerating investment in artificial intelligence and the competitive landscape among processor makers.
* <https://www.counterpointresearch.com/insights/data-center-cpu-market-amd-surpasses-intel-share-growth/> - This report underscores the dynamic nature of the semiconductor landscape, particularly the growing demands for AI and data processing reliability, and how companies are adapting to these trends.
* <https://www.techradar.com/pro/security/why-would-arms-owner-want-to-buy-a-rival-to-amd-and-intel-i-can-think-of-one-reason> - Please view link - unable to able to access data