

What is the NASDAQ?

The **NASDAQ** (*acronym of **National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotient***)

It is an **American stock exchange**. It is the largest **electronic screen-based equity securities trading market** in the **United States**. With approximately **3,200 companies** that are leaders of **technology, retail, communications, financial services, transportation, media and biotechnology**, it lists more companies and on average trades more shares per day than any other **U.S. market**.^[1]

It was founded in **1971** by the **National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD)**, who divested themselves of it in a series of sales in **2000 and 2001**. It is owned and operated by the **NASDAQ OMX Group**, the stock of which was listed on its own stock exchange in **2002**, and is monitored by the **Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)**.

With the completed purchase of the **Nordic-based operated exchange OMX**, following its agreement with **Borse Dubai**, **NASDAQ** is poised to capture **67%** of the controlling stake in the aforementioned exchange, thereby inching ever closer to taking over the company and creating a **trans-atlantic powerhouse**.^[2] **Nasdaq-OMX group** as it's now known now controls and operates the **NASDAQ stock market in NYC**, which is the **second largest in the US**; in addition, it now operates **eight stock exchanges in Europe** and also holds **33.3%** of the **Dubai Stock Exchange**. It has a **double-listing agreement with OMX**, which will render it more effective than the **NYSE-Euronext group** in attracting new listings.

As a general rule of thumb, it is where most **technology stocks** are traded. A quick way to tell if a company is listed on the **NASDAQ** is to check out the **ticker symbol**... those made up of **four letters** are listed here (e.g. **Microsoft = MSFT, Dell Computers = DELL, Cisco = CSCO**)



Type	Stock exchange
Location	New York City, United States
Owner	The NASDAQ OMX Group
Key people	Robert Greifeld (CEO) H. Furlong Baldwin (Chairman)
Currency	USD
No. of listings	3,200
Indexes	NASDAQ Composite NASDAQ-100 NASDAQ Biotechnology Index
Website	www.nasdaqomx.com