

PepsiCo bets on functional beverages with \$3.85bn Rockstar acquisition

Snacking and beverage giant PepsiCo has entered into an agreement to acquire energy drink maker Rockstar Energy Beverages for \$3.85bn.



In addition to Rockstar, PepsiCo's energy portfolio includes Mountain Dew's Kickstart, GameFuel, and AMP.

"As we work to be more consumer-centric and capitalise on rising demand in the functional beverage space, this highly strategic acquisition will enable us to leverage PepsiCo's capabilities to both accelerate Rockstar's performance and unlock our ability to expand in the category with existing brands such as Mountain Dew," said PepsiCo chairman and CEO, Ramon Laguarta.

"Over time, we expect to capture our fair share of this fast-growing, highly profitable category and create meaningful new partnerships in the energy space."



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Rockstar, founded in 2001, produces beverages designed for those who lead active lifestyles, with products available in over 30 flavours at convenience and grocery outlets in over 30 countries. PepsiCo has had a distribution agreement with Rockstar in North America since 2009.

"We have had a strong partnership with PepsiCo for the last decade, and I'm happy to take that to the next level and join forces as one company," said Russ Weiner, Rockstar's founder. "PepsiCo shares our competitive spirit and will invest in growing our brand even further. I'm proud of what we built and how we've changed the game in the energy space."



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PepsiCo has also entered into an agreement, which will provide approximately \$0.7bn of payments related to future tax benefits associated with the transaction, payable over up to 15 years. PepsiCo does not expect the transaction to be material to its revenue or earnings per share in 2020. The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions, including regulatory approval, and is expected to close in the first half of 2020.

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