

## **Weibo said to raise RM921.6 mil pricing shares at low end**

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**By Leslie Picker and Fox Hu, Bloomberg**

Weibo Corp, the Chinese microblogging service owned by Sina Corp and Alibaba Group Holdings Ltd, raised US\$285.6 million (RM921.6 million) its U.S. initial public offering after pricing the shares at the low end of a marketed range, people with knowledge of the matter said.

Weibo sold 16.8 million Class A American depositary shares for US\$17 each, said the people, who asked not to be identified discussing a private matter. The shares had been offered for US\$17 to US\$19 apiece. The Beijing-based company's shares will be listed on the Nasdaq Stock Market under the symbol WB.

From the time Weibo first publicly filed for its IPO on March 14, 2014, the Nasdaq 100 Index dropped 3% through yesterday amid a slump in technology stocks, data compiled by Bloomberg show. Weibo joins seven other Chinese Internet companies seeking capital in the US, which have filed to raise a total of US\$2.8 billion in New York this year — the most since the fourth quarter of 2007.

“Investors have a lot of concerns about Weibo especially now that it is facing a competitive landscape,” said You Na, a senior research analyst at ICBC International Research Ltd in Hong Kong. “The market is also in a relative weak state.”

The tally of US offerings by Chinese companies this year doesn't include China-based Alibaba, which is preparing to go public and which analysts estimate could be the biggest IPO in the US in at least two years. The two IPOs from China-based companies this year, from Tarena International Inc and IKang Healthcare Group Inc, have dropped below their offering prices, data compiled by Bloomberg show.

A spokesman for Weibo didn't immediately answer a call seeking comment on the pricing. CNBC earlier today reported the pricing on its Twitter feed.

**Leju Pricing**

Leju Holdings Ltd, a Chinese operator of real estate websites, raised US\$100 million on the New York Stock Exchange selling shares at the low end of a marketed range, people familiar with the matter said today. Leju sold 10 million American depositary shares at US\$10 each, the people said.

Alibaba agreed a year ago to buy a 19% stake in Weibo for US\$586 million, and plans to exercise an option to raise that stake to 32%, according to a filing. Weibo plans to use about US\$250 million of the proceeds from the IPO to repay loans owed to Sina.

Weibo operates a Twitter Inc-like service that derived 79% of its US\$188.3 million in revenue from advertising and marketing last year, the filing shows. That amounted to about US\$1.46 in sales for each of its 129.1 million active monthly users. Weibo is unprofitable, posting losses for the past three years, the filing shows.

Goldman Sachs Group Inc and Credit Suisse Group AG managed the offering.

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