Customers avoid Sprint in 1Q as suitors circle

April 24 2013, by Peter Svensson

(AP)—The flow of new customers to Sprint stopped in the latest quarter, even as the company weighs the offers of two corporate suitors.

Sprint Nextel Corp. says it added a net of just 12,000 customers to its Sprint brand in the quarter, and it would have lost 252,000 if it weren't for Nextel customers moving over now that their network is being shut down.

Still, the company narrowed its net loss in the quarter to \$643 million, or 21 cents per share, from \$863 million, or 29 cents per share, a year ago.

Revenue edged up 0.7 percent to \$8.79 billion.

Sprint has agreed to sell 70 percent of itself to Japan's <u>Softbank Corp.</u>, but last week got a competing offer from <u>Dish Network</u> Corp.

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