

The Denver Business Journal - 12:21 PM MDT Monday

Qualcomm buys Vesuvius Inc.

[Vesuvius Inc.](#), a wireless intellectual property company, said Monday it was sold to [Qualcomm Inc.](#)

Vesuvius was based in Vail, where president and CEO Dan McKenna lives, and in San Antonio, where chief business officer George Kauss lives. McKenna previously lived in Steamboat Springs, so the headquarters was there prior to his moving to Vail at the end of last year, Kauss said.

In February 2004, Vesuvius announced it had hired Chicago investment banking firm Duff & Phelps LLC to sell the company's patent portfolio of wireless multicasting/narrowcasting.

Vesuvius said Monday the entire company had been sold to Qualcomm (Nasdaq: QCOM), based in San Diego, but didn't disclose the price. Kauss said Vesuvius was actually sold to Qualcomm back in August, but it's only now that Vesuvius received approval from Qualcomm to publicize the deal.

Kauss said he, McKenna and Jim Graziano, a patent attorney with Patton Boggs in Denver, have formed a new company called [Vulano Group Inc.](#), also based in Vail and San Antonio. Vulano will work on new technologies in wireless, telecommunications, enterprise and consumer software, security, biosciences and medical devices.

With Vesuvius, Qualcomm bought five patents and five patents pending, Kauss said, and that technology was developed by McKenna.

It allows for cost and bandwidth savings in delivering multimedia to cell phones and personal digital assistants, Kauss said. And it also allows for targeting audiences for specific programming. For instance, programming such as a soccer game in Spain could be targeted to a 40-block area where people are most likely to be interested in that game, he said.

Vesuvius was started four and a half years ago, Kauss said, and now that the principals of Vulano have some money from the Vesuvius sale, they can concentrate more fully on developing more new technology.

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