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Son's $64.6B regret: "One of my mistakes" was skipping Anthropic

: SoftBank's founder admits he passed on Anthropic for OpenAI. A day later, Anthropic listed and SoftBank crashed

By **Manasee Kurlekar** | November 21, 2026



SoftBank's founder admits he passed on Anthropic for OpenAI. A day later, Anthropic listed and SoftBank crashed!

Masayoshi Son said publicly that passing on Anthropic to concentrate on OpenAI was a mistake. His timing turned that admission into a market story.

Key details: At Nikkei's Dialogues on the Future event in Tokyo on Wednesday, Son said that SoftBank had considered Anthropic before choosing rival OpenAI.

The company had already begun committing capital to OpenAI when discussions involving Anthropic emerged, forcing a choice between backing one company or both.

While he acknowledged that diversifying investments across multiple companies makes sense, he argued that concentrating capital in one firm allows for a closer partnership. A final $10 billion installment on Oct. 1 completed that commitment, bringing cumulative investment to $64.6 billion and ownership to about 13%.

Anthropic then priced its IPO at $83.00 per share, raising $81.3 billion.

SoftBank fell 14.5% the next day.

Read online: https://worldbusinesswatch.com/market-signals/10/454/sons-64-6b-regret-one-of-my-mistakes-was-skipping-anthropic.html
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