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## Eastman Kodak wins latest patent battle with Apple and BlackBerry maker Research In Motion

BY [Suzanne Sataline](#)  
DAILY NEWS WRITER

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Dawson/Bloomberg

A visitor uses his Apple Inc. iPhone to photograph a collection of Omega watches on display during the Baselworld watch fair in Basel, Switzerland, on Wednesday, March 23, 2011. As Swiss watch enthusiasts flock to Baselworld this week to ogle items including the \$35,900 Omega Ladymatic at the industry's largest fair, the devastation left by Japan's earthquake and tsunami threatens to restrain growth in luxury timepiece sales. Photographer: Simon Dawson/Bloomberg

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The Federal government has given [Kodak](#) a reason to smile and say, "Cheese!"

[Eastman Kodak](#) won the latest round in its patent dispute with [Apple](#) and [BlackBerry](#) maker [Research In Motion](#) - a fight that could generate more than \$1 billion in new licensing revenue for the [Rochester, N.Y.](#), camera company.

Kodak's stock rose as much as 22%, to \$4.11, in after-hours trading after the [U.S. International Trade Commission](#) said it will review a judge's opinion from January that ruled against Kodak.

The earlier decision said that [Apple's iPhone](#) and RIM's BlackBerry had not violated Kodak's patent for previewing digital images on smartphones.

The case is a big deal for the 131-year-old camera company, which has been struggling in the face of competitors' technological breakthroughs. Consumers won't see a difference either way with the final ruling, consultant [Robert Sethre](#) of Photizo told the Daily News.

"Either RIM and Apple are going to pay a bundle of money, or not," Sethre said. "It's easier to pay the money than pull the products off the market."

Kodak filed a similar patent complaint against [Samsung](#) and LG in 2008, accusing them of infringing on the same patents at issue in the Apple and RIM case. The commission agreed. The companies settled with Kodak for a total of \$964 million.

Kodak, which made \$838 million from patents last year, has told investors it expects to average \$250 million to \$350 million in annual revenue from intellectual property licensing through 2013.

"We are pleased with the decision and we look forward to the next step in the process," Kodak spokesman [Gerard Meuchner](#) said.

The commission should make a final decision by May. Neither Apple nor RIM offered an immediate comment.

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