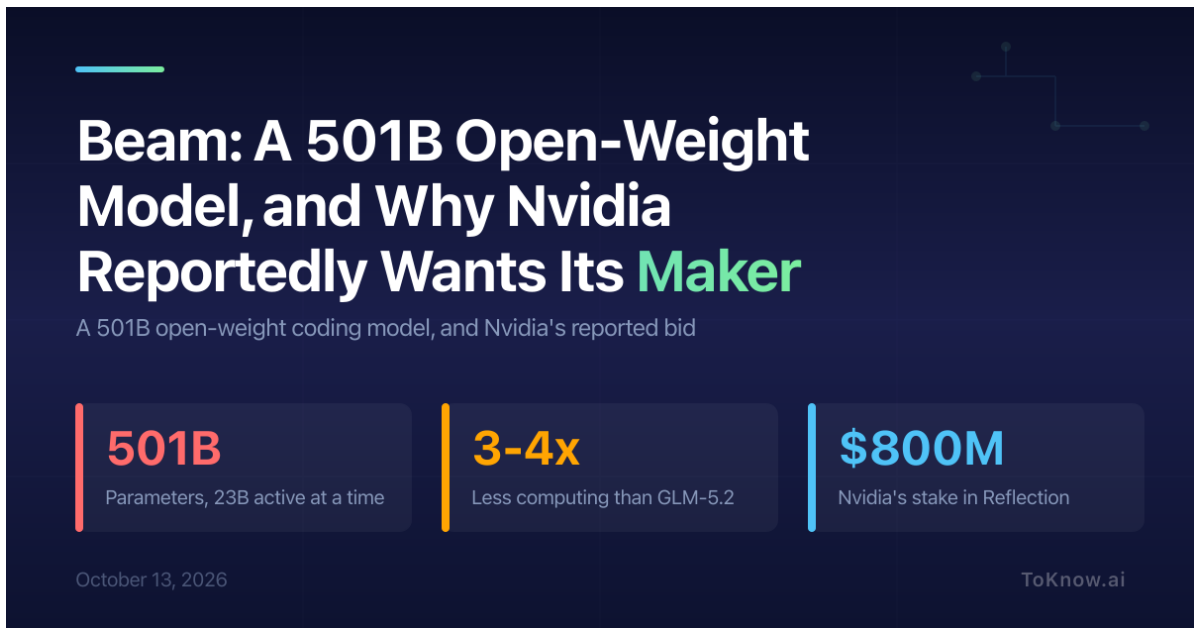


Beam: A 501B Open-Weight Model, and Why Nvidia Reportedly Wants Its Maker

Kabui, Charles

2026-10-13

 Read at ToKnow.ai



The graphic features a dark blue background with a white and green title. Below the title is a subtitle. Three colored vertical bars (red, orange, and blue) separate three key statistics. The date 'October 13, 2026' is in the bottom left, and 'ToKnow.ai' is in the bottom right.

Beam: A 501B Open-Weight Model, and Why Nvidia Reportedly Wants Its Maker

A 501B open-weight coding model, and Nvidia's reported bid

501B

Parameters, 23B active at a time

3-4x

Less computing than GLM-5.2

\$800M

Nvidia's stake in Reflection

October 13, 2026

ToKnow.ai

Beam is a new open-weight AI model from Reflection AI, a US startup, built for software work like fixing bugs and running multi-step jobs with tools. It uses a “mixture of experts” design, which keeps it cheap to run: the model has 501 billion parameters in total, but only about 23 billion switch on for any given word. Reflection trained it on 23.8 trillion tokens. The weights arrive later this month; an early version is on a waitlist.

Reflection says Beam matches the larger open model [GLM-5.2](#) on reasoning while using three to four times less computing, so a team running coding agents pays less per task. The training run generated 100 million attempts across 10,500 Nvidia GB300 chips over four weeks, drawn from about one million curated coding and science tasks. Reflection calls Beam the Western open-weight answer to cheaper Chinese models like DeepSeek and Kimi.

Five days after the launch, the Financial Times reported that Nvidia is in early talks to buy Reflection or deepen its existing \$800 million investment, at a reported \$25 billion valuation. One option is an acqui-hire, hiring the staff and licensing the technology instead of buying the whole company, which would avoid a long antitrust review. Talks could still fall apart. Nvidia is the leading maker of AI chips, so owning a model lab would tie its hardware to the software that runs on it.

Read More: [When a Government Can Switch Off a Frontier Model, the Hedge Is Local AI](#)

Sources:

- [Introducing Beam: Reflection’s 501B open-weight model \(Reflection AI\)](#)
- [Reflection AI Unveils Beam, a 501B-Parameter Open-Weight Model \(Unite.AI\)](#)
- [Nvidia in talks to invest further in Reflection AI or buy it \(The Economic Times, Reuters/FT\)](#)
- [Nvidia Negotiates Investment or Acquisition of Open Source Startup Reflection AI \(Yahoo Finance\)](#)
- [Reflection AI Newsroom \(Reflection AI\)](#)

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