



Smartbox

Communication is life



Talk To Me
Technologies

PRESS RELEASE - US

Talk To Me Technologies joined the Smartbox family

Smartbox is pleased to announce the signing of an agreement to acquire Talk To Me Technologies (TTMT), one of the most trusted suppliers of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) in the US. The acquisition was completed June 1, 2023. The two companies have joined forces, combining the expertise of more than 400 assistive technology specialists around the world.

Smartbox was founded in 2006 and is an established provider of AAC products including their flagship software, Grid. Having grown their global footprint, they are now helping people who use their technology in more than 40 countries. Smartbox continues to help people communicate around the world by uniting a group of client-focused AAC providers that will include Talk To Me Technologies in the US, and already includes REHAVISTA in Germany, which joined the Smartbox family in 2021.

Like Smartbox, for almost 17 years, TTMT has been helping people with complex communication and access needs to live more independently. By combining Smartbox's global experience with TTMT's local knowledge and expertise, the two companies will be able to better serve people who use AAC and improve awareness of assistive technology in the US.

Smartbox's existing US team, based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, will be working collaboratively with TTMT to help provide a voice for more people. Research and Development teams based in the UK, US and Germany will work together to co-develop the next generation of AAC technology.

Smartbox and Talk To Me Technologies have shared values, taking a client-centered approach to the design and development of quality products and a commitment to the successful implementation of AAC. They also have a shared vision, where everyone can participate in society regardless of cognitive or physical disability. Collectively, both companies champion the belief that everyone has the right to communication and independence.

Dougal Hawes, Managing Director of the Smartbox Group commented, *"We are thrilled that Talk To Me Technologies is joining the Smartbox Group. We have worked with the TTMT team as one of our trusted global partners for many years, but our new relationship means we can deliver much more for people who need technology to communicate, to have a voice."*

“With their wealth of clinical knowledge and experience, and our commitment to research, development and client care, our US customers will continue receiving the very best in support, training, and quality products. Together, we can achieve more for the people our organizations exist to serve.”

Smartbox and Talk To Me Technologies have joined forces under the direction of a unified US Executive Team, led by TTMT CEO Marty Gallagher, COO Kate Dunning and CIO Matt Dunning, supported by the Leadership teams from Smartbox and TTMT.

“TTMT has been a Smartbox partner for many years, while continually developing excellent AAC products in the US, and building on our trusted reputation,” said Gallagher. “Joining forces with Smartbox will enable us to serve more people while continuing to provide outstanding service and support.”

“There is still so much more to do to help people who use assistive technology succeed,” commented Kate Dunning. “Being able to collaborate and innovate with another great set of minds in the industry is truly exciting and will certainly provide tremendous benefits for the clients we serve.”

“Combining the research and development teams of Smartbox and TTMT will push boundaries and raise the bar of expectations in the industry,” said Matt Dunning. “Being part of a growing global family that makes cutting-edge AAC is so exciting. We can’t wait to get started.”

Learn more by visiting www.talktometechnologies.com/pages/ttmtandsmartbox

- ENDS -

Notes to Editors

Smartbox Assistive Technology are the creators of Grid and operate as a global provider of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), as part of the CareTech group of companies. With offices in Pittsburgh USA, the UK, and a sister company operating in Germany, Smartbox also work with a growing network of over 45 trusted global partners who deliver products and services in more than 30 languages. **Smartbox** leads the way in AAC software with Grid available on iPad and Windows. Grid includes text and symbol communication, accessible apps, environment control and is continuously updated. The Grid Pad range of dedicated hardware solutions are accessible via a range of methods including switch, touch, head pointers and eye gaze.

www.thinksmartbox.com.

Talk To Me Technologies provides powerful AAC solutions to those with communication needs throughout the United States. With a team that is committed to providing high-quality service and support, TTMT's goal is to help everyone speak again or for the very first time, as quickly as possible.

TTMT's product range offers a wide variety of dynamic AAC solutions, which include the wego A, zuvo, and eyespeak communication systems. TTMT is also the creator of the OnWord, QuickStep, Universal Core, and Zoom vocabulary page sets, as well as the Spark Symbol Set library displayed proudly on its low-tech communication boards, including large mounted communication boards featured in inclusive parks.

TTMT was founded in Cedar Falls, Iowa. The company has been committed to sharing the benefits of AAC for almost 17 years with technology that helps improve communication. Learn more online at talktometechnologies.com, and follow on Facebook and Instagram.

For more information, please contact

Charlotte Alderson, Head of Marketing [Smartbox Assistive Technology]

charlotte.alderson@thinksmartbox.com

Lawrell Wenzel, Director of Marketing [Talk To Me Technologies]

lawrell.wenzel@talktometechnologies.com