

Groupcall named *ICT Company of the Year*

Groupcall was last night awarded the prestigious title of *ICT Company of the Year* at the hugely anticipated BETT 2012 Awards gala dinner which took place at the London Hilton, Park Lane. The BETT Awards recognise outstanding educational products and learning solutions, and with a huge number of entries, are seen as the most respected in the sector. All category finalists were selected from a very competitive pool of entrants.

This year the panel was made up of 35 education professionals and ICT experts. A rigorous judging process took place over four days and trade association, British Education Suppliers Association (BESA) acted as the chair of judges, overseeing the impartiality and fairness.

Lawrence Royston, managing director, Groupcall, added: "For over a decade Groupcall has worked hard to affirm its position as an industry specialist and market leader in providing communication and data solutions to UK and international schools. We have listened to our customers – teachers, schools, and parents – and developed and enhanced our products in line with their needs, and a rapidly advancing technology driven world. Our initial aim was to improve general and emergency communication between a school and its parents; we have achieved this as well as improving parental engagement and lowering school costs. To receive *any* BETT Award is an honour, but to be awarded the *ICT Company of the Year* title is a testament to work we have put into *all* of our products. We are so proud, honoured and thrilled with the announcement".

~Ends~

About Groupcall

Launched in 2002, Groupcall provides communication and data solutions to the education, public and private sectors. Groupcall is one of the education sector market leaders with its parental communication system, Groupcall Messenger, which is currently used in more than 2,500 schools throughout the UK and Europe. Co-founded by Sir Bob Geldof, Groupcall's product portfolio comprises of Messenger, Xporter and Alert. Groupcall was initially created to improve general and emergency communication between a school and its parents. Since then, Messenger has proven to successfully reduce unauthorised absences in schools, as well as improve parental engagement and lower costs. Groupcall's product offering also includes a newly developed Systems Interoperability Framework (SIF) agent, which has been designed to complement the complex data requirements of new education initiatives such as the 14-19 Reform.

2006 saw Groupcall announced as the winner of the Daily Telegraph's Trailblazers Award Scheme as the UK's leading business in the 'life assistance' sector.

For further information please visit: www.groupcall.com

Products

Groupcall Messenger is a Parental Contact system used by more than 2,500 schools, enabling them to send text, voice or email messages in any language to parents' mobile phones or landlines, providing unauthorised absence and general parental communication. Messenger reads pupil and attendance information live and in real time from the school's MIS.

Groupcall Emerge is the powerful yet intuitive 'App' which enables schools to have an up-to-the-minute copy of their MIS data instantly and securely available in the palm of their hand for access anytime, anywhere. Registration can be taken and student information, such as timetables can be accessed wherever you are, without the need to rely on a desktop PC. Groupcall Emerge is the perfect solution for users to access information when and wherever it is needed, including in an emergency where the school system may be down or access to the school is restricted, thus ensuring staff and student safety is paramount at all times.

Groupcall Xporter provides authorities with an automated solution to securely collect data from schools or other institutions, and securely deliver to a chosen location or system. Xporter can also be used for automatically provisioning of 3rd party systems. The solution is currently installed in over 12,000 UK schools.

Groupcall Alert is an emergency community wide communication system enabling authorities to send text, voice or email messages in any language to citizen's mobile phones or landlines, providing general or emergency communication. Groupcall Alert automatically synchronises with a wide variety of public sector data base systems (Schools' MIS, HR Systems, Social Care, Housing, PCT etc).