

I writing to find out the status of the Tobii Smartbox merger. My [👁️] daughter uses a Tobii eyegaze device and recently started with Smartbox software for literacy skill development and for access to general computer applications when the merger was announced. Access to good software and hardware is not easy to come by so everyone in our small eyegaze community was thrilled that Tobii would be taking over. As it is now, there is virtually NO support available for us in Canada for Smartbox software, so the prospect of being able to call Tobii support for help and training was exciting. Though Tobii is a large company by comparison, it is still small enough that we know several employees (in tech support and in engineering) by name and vice versa. Please know that our kids who use eyegaze need the very best technology, software, and support from one source. Being able to control all her programs seamlessly from her device without assistance would allow my daughter to have independence; something that she is unable to claim in any other aspect of her life. She uses her device during all waking hours and does everything on it from talking to drawing to homework so this is very important to all of us. Having several different programs from different companies that don't interact well together or with the hardware is a hinderance to her ability to have control in her life.

I hope you consider the needs and the best interest of the consumers when making your decision.

Sincerely,