

Swiss Speech Technology Excels in Automotive Industry

Due to its innovative speech output solutions, Zurich speech technology company SVOX has established itself as the European market leader for in-car navigation systems. Given the firm's compelling performance, a group of investors led by Beat Curti, a member of the Board of Directors, has provided additional capital for the firm's further expansion.

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SVOX has emerged as the leading provider of speech output solutions for the automotive and mobile device industries. During the first six months of 2005, the Zurich technology company achieved an impressive improvement of its sales and operating profit. Revenues alone increased by approximately 50% compared with the first half of the previous financial year. SVOX's CEO Volker Jantzen expects a further increase in this trend for the second half of the year: "Some of the devices we had been working on in the past have now entered mass production. The increasing inflow of royalties will substantially contribute to the rapid growth of our company".

Member of the Board Göran Grosskopf, former long-time CEO of Tetra Laval and current Chairman of the Board of InterIkea SA, explains SVOX's successful evolution primarily as a result of the firm's innovative strength. He elaborates: "SVOX has successfully focused on developing innovative products that deliver significant competitive advantages to their customers, and help to reduce their integration cost. For this reason, the company has become the strategic speech output solutions partner of choice for many of the major European car manufacturers".

Bearing this success formula in mind, SVOX plans to allocate the resulting positive cash flows to further product innovations, improvements in customer satisfaction, and accelerated international expansion.

A recently concluded capital raising exercise provides additional funds for SVOX's further growth. A group of investors led by Beat Curti, founder and long-time Chairman of the Board of Bon Appetit Group, has significantly augmented their investment in SVOX. "I am intrigued to see how a young Swiss team has established itself at the cutting edge of global technology", says Beat Curti, who has joined the Board of Directors. "Due to typical Swiss virtues, the company has quietly become the European market leader for in-car navigation systems. Its compelling software quality along with a reliable,

responsive and expeditious collaboration has won favor with its partners and customers”.

Currently, SVOX works on the integration of speech output solutions, and on the provision of corporate voices for premium and mid-range vehicles for several major automobile manufacturers.

About SVOX AG

SVOX AG is a leading provider of speech output solutions for the automotive and mobile device industries. SVOX's core product is the SVOX Text-to-Speech system. The company makes computers and other electronic devices talk by converting written text into natural-sounding and easily comprehensible speech. Its focus on embedded speech allows for specifically optimized solutions. Therefore, SVOX speech applications are small, fast, and multilingual. With SVOX's software architecture, customers are offered a speech engine that can be easily tailored to their technical requirements and market needs.

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