Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is Smashtalk?

A: Smashtalk is a text messaging application that uses a patented method of sending and receiving text messages. The beauty of Smashtalk is that when a Smashtalk message is received, sending a reply text to every one of the original recipients is simply a matter of clicking the "Reply All" option.

Let's say Adam needs to contact 5 of his friends about where to meet for lunch. Adam composes a Smashtalk message and addresses the message to the 5 friends. Sue has Smashtalk on her phone and receives Adam's text message. Her reply choices are "Reply" and "Reply All". Thus, Sue can send her response just to Adam or, using the "Reply All" option, have her response sent to every one of the original recipients.

This is effectively the "Reply All" option that has been available in the e-mail world now available in the world of text messaging.

Q: How can I get Smashtalk on my phone

A: The design of Smashtalk requires that it be integrated directly into the phone. If your current phone does not support Smashtalk, you will need to upgrade to a phone that does include Smashtalk. Please contact your carrier and ask them which of their phones support Smashtalk.

Q: Can't I "Reply All" to text messages from my phone today?

A: No. Today's text messaging applications only provide the option to reply to the sender. In fact, while the sender can send a single text message to an almost unlimited number of recipients, no recipient can see who else received the message.

Q: Can I send a Smashtalk message to someone who does not have Smashtalk?

A: Yes. Smashtalk messages are fully compatible with existing text messaging devices. A non-Smashtalk device will display Smashtalk messages just like a normal text message.

Q: How do I know if I have Smashtalk installed?

A: Look at the feature list for your phone. If Smashtalk$^®$ is not included, your phone does not support Smashtalk. A quick call to your carrier can confirm whether or not your phone supports Smashtalk.

Q: Does Smashtalk work with all the carriers?

A: Yes. Smashtalk has been designed according to the international GSM specification for text messaging. While testing with every carrier is planned, if your carrier's SMS deployment conforms to the international specification, Smashtalk should work.

Q: How much does Smashtalk cost?

A: Smashtalk is the next generation of text messaging and thus is subject to the same text messaging charges that are in effect today. Please consult with your carrier if you are not familiar with the charges associated with text messaging.

Q: Do I need to wait for my carrier to change their equipment in order to be able to use Smashtalk?

A: No. Smashtalk is based upon the GSM standard for text messaging thus cell phone carriers around the world are already able to carry Smashtalk messages.

Q: Do I need to subscribe to a service to use Smashtalk?

A: No. Smashtalk uses the text messaging service of your mobile phone provider. There are no extra charges above text messaging charges associated with using Smashtalk.

Q: If I receive a text message on my Smashtalk-enabled phone and the sender did not have Smashtalk, will I see all of the original recipients?

A: No. Normal text messaging applications do not have any means for including this information.

Q: Can I add/delete the names of the recipients after clicking "Reply All"?

A: Yes. This normal text messaging function is available with Smashtalk.

Q: I called my carrier and they said they do not have a date for supporting Smashtalk. What can I do to get Smashtalk?

A: There are 2 obvious choices: switch carriers or buy a Smashtalk-enabled phone that will work on your existing carrier's network and swap out the SIM card.

Q: What is the incentive for a carrier to have Smashtalk installed on all of their vendor's phones?

A: There are 2 ways for a carrier to offer its customers group text-chat: web-based and device-based.

Today, there are a number of web based services offering group text chat. As long as everyone you want to involve in your group text chat has registered to the "site du jour", the service works as long as you are connected to the web site.

Smashtalk, on the other hand, is designed to be the default SMS interface on any telephony or internet-enabled device. Smashtalk messages do not require registration on a web site to send or receive messages. No need to build groups lists ahead of sending messages. Smashtalk insures that customers do not need to coordinate site memberships and carriers are able to account for every text message coming and going.

Smashtalk, in addition to driving a 3x increase in billable text message traffic, also creates a hardware refresh buying cycle which translates into new and extended contracts; music to a carrier's ears.

Q: How is Smashtalk different from the various web sites that offer group text messaging?

A: Group texting from a web site is available today from over 20 vendors but none have the convenience or ease of use of Smashtalk. None of these sites interoperate with one another

and none are seeing growth on the order of text messaging itself. In short, group texting via web site is not the usage model consumers want.

Smashtalk works just like the original text messaging application all of us have used for years. No learning curve. No need for creating group lists ahead of time. No need to register with a web site or have your friends connect to a web site to have a text-based conversation. Smashtalk is the usage model that consumers want and which benefits carriers the most. Smashtalk is fully interoperable with existing text messaging devices and has the ability to support app-to-app group texting to support move-based games. Smashtalk is what text messaging should have been from the beginning.