

Announcing New SMART Response™ VE for Internet-Enabled Devices

Browser-based assessment tool offers educators a future-proof solution for interactive assessment

PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania--- June 27, 2011 --- SMART Technologies Inc. (NASDAQ: SMT) (TSX: SMA), a leading provider of collaboration solutions, announces the SMART Response VE interactive response system, part of the growing SMART Response product line. It enables students to log in to assessments from any Internet-enabled device, including tablets, such as the Apple iPad and BlackBerry® Playbook, smartphones, including the iPhone and BlackBerry, the iPod Touch, a home computer or a laptop. Students can access teacher-created assessments, respond to questions and receive immediate feedback. As with all models in the SMART Response product line, SMART Response VE integrates seamlessly with SMART Notebook™ collaborative learning software, consolidating lesson creation, delivery and assessment within one application. SMART Response VE is offered on an annual subscription basis and will be available in North America on July 20, 2011, and globally in the fall of 2011.

The SMART Response product line now provides a range of models and options to support a variety of learning environments, including early education through to secondary classrooms, distance learning and any location where students have access to Internet-enabled mobile devices. All SMART Response interactive response systems enable teachers to create quizzes and tests for formative and summative assessment and to ask spontaneous questions to gain ongoing insight into student comprehension. SMART Response VE offers educators a future-proof solution for interactive assessment, lowering total cost of ownership and giving educators a higher return on investment. Students can use any Internet-enabled mobile device to complete interactive assessments, allowing educators the flexibility of being able to invest in a variety of mobile devices while continuing to use SMART Response VE. Teachers also have access to thousands of questions correlated to national standards through the SMART Exchange™ website (exchange.smarttech.com), an online community that houses more than 50,000 digital resources designed specifically for use on SMART products. For more information, and to watch a video on SMART Response VE, visit smarttech.com/ResponseVE.

"We began testing SMART Response VE in the fall of 2010, and it's been a great success, supporting the differentiated learning needs of our students and enabling them to work at their own pace," says Kristen Brittingham, Technology Specialist at Charleston County School District in South Carolina. "The greatest benefit we've realized is how easy it was to incorporate SMART Response VE into one-to-one learning initiatives using Apple iPads, making it easy to integrate formal and informal assessment into day-to-day instruction."

"As mobile devices continue to become more common in today's classrooms, teachers and administrators have the opportunity to engage learners and gain instant and frequent insight into student comprehension, whether in the classroom, at home or elsewhere," says Linda Thomas, SMART's Vice President, Products.

“SMART Response VE provides teachers and students greater flexibility on how, when and from where assessments are completed, enabling more teachers to deliver interactive assessments to support the diverse learning styles of their students.”

Features

Support for Internet-enabled devices – Platform agnostic and designed to work with any Internet-enabled device, such as tablets, smartphones, the iPod Touch, a home computer or a laptop

Support for multiple question types – Supports six question types, including true or false, yes or no, multiple choice, multiple answer, numeric response and text response

Multiple assessment options – Teachers can prepare quizzes and tests in advance or ask spontaneous questions at any point during a lesson to gauge student understanding

Support for multiple file formats – Supports multiple file formats, including Microsoft® Word and PowerPoint®, .pdf and third-party question banks, enabling teachers to import questions from a wide variety of applications

Easy-to-view results – Teachers can quickly and easily display assessment results using pie charts and graphs that can then be dragged into a SMART Notebook lesson to be reviewed and written over. Teachers can also view assessment results in detail to see how individual students have answered.

Content pages – Measure student comprehension during any SMART Notebook lesson by inserting SMART Response question sets between content pages

Multiple print options – Print quizzes as paper assessments that students can complete outside the classroom, or add comments to completed assessments that can be provided as study guides

Export assessment results – Export results into Microsoft Excel® (.xls) or text format (.csv), and customize text files by choosing the fields required for the report, including question-level detail

Intuitive on-screen links – Progress quickly and easily through an assessment guided by links and simple prompts. A single click lets teachers create questions, start and stop an assessment or view results.

Anonymous mode – Enables students to respond to questions anonymously

Comprehensive gradebook – Use the built-in gradebook to track performance reports that are automatically collected and saved into one easily accessed file. Teachers can also generate .pdf reports that cover an entire school year or other defined time frame.

Privacy setting – Use privacy mode in the system’s built-in gradebook to ensure sensitive student information and assessment results are kept confidential

Weighted marking – Assign varied point values to individual questions or adjust student scores in the built-in gradebook

Tagging – Teachers can tag student names and assessment questions with keywords to track specific characteristics that help to measure and evaluate student performance

Teacher Tools – Teachers can access, view and manage all assessment data in one location and organize it by student and class. A built-in gradebook tracks performance and records test results, which are

automatically collected and saved into one easily accessed file. The gradebook also enables teachers to generate PDF reports or export results to Microsoft Excel.

SMART Notebook software integration – Teachers can deliver questions without leaving a lesson or opening another software application

Availability

The SMART Response VE interactive response system will be available in North America on July 20, 2011, and will be available globally in the fall of 2011, on an annual subscription basis.

About SMART

[SMART Technologies Inc.](#) is a leading provider of collaboration solutions that transform the way the world works and learns. We believe that collaboration and interaction should be easy. As the global leader in interactive whiteboards, we bring more than two decades of collaboration research and development to a broad range of easy-to-use, integrated solutions that free people from their desks and computer screens, so collaborating and learning with digital resources are more natural.

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Please note that SMART is written in all capital letters.