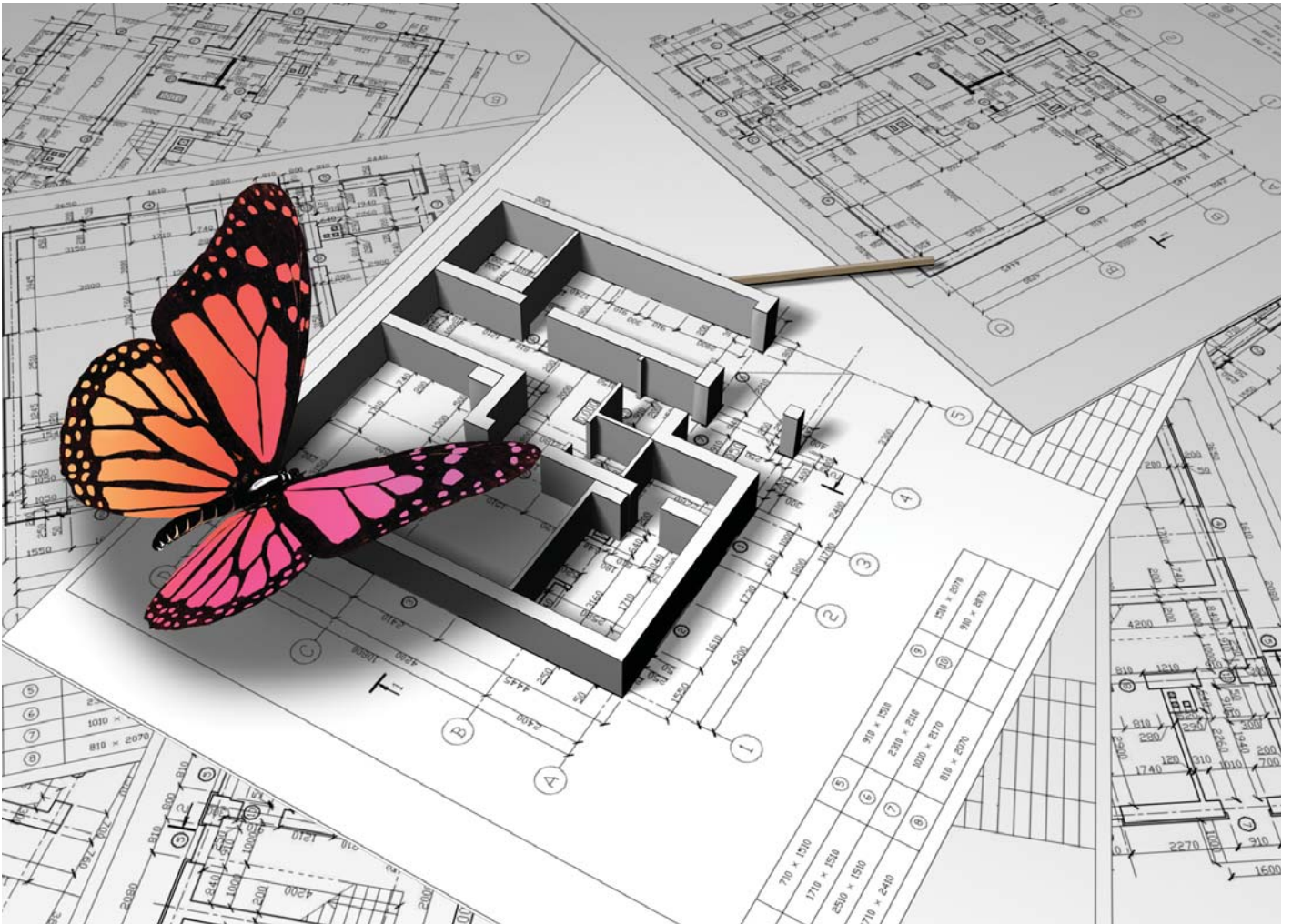


Electronic Assistive Technology

Together, we can change peoples lives





What is Electronic Assistive Technology (EAT)?



Possum's products and systems provide, people with disabilities, new freedom and independence through the provision of Electronic Assistive Technology (EAT). EAT can help people whose activities are limited by physical impairment to operate equipment in a variety of applications including in the home, residential care homes, schools and hospices. EAT is also used to support people with a physical or cognitive impairment by using emergency sensors to advise a family member or carer in the event of a person falling or a flood or fire risk arising.

Possum Ltd

Possum Ltd has, for nearly 50 years, been providing innovative Electronic Assistive Technology (EAT), solutions for individuals with disabilities by providing the means to perform tasks such as answer the telephone, change the channels on the television, open the curtains, close the window, use an intercom at the front door or make an emergency call, by themselves. Preventative technology solutions include systems for the detection of wireless sensor activation such as smoke, flood, window, movement, property exit, bed and chair sensor and emergency alarms e.g. pull cord, wrist or pendant. Our solutions can also be integrated into existing nursecall systems by providing an interface for clients with severe disabilities.

Possum Building Projects Division

Possum provides a total project management service for the installation of Electronic Assistive Technology (EAT) in large scale new build and major refurbishment projects, working closely with architects and building contractors on residential care homes, schools, specialist college halls of residence and hospices. Possum's building projects division provides a full planning and advisory service for housing associations, housing authorities, charities and others who are building or refurbishing large scale residential homes. Working in partnership with our customers, we provide practical advice and technical help in utilising EAT applications to develop and improve the independent living opportunities for people with a range of disabilities.

Queen's Award

Possum Ltd has received one of the most prestigious business awards in the UK, the Queen's Award for Enterprise in the Innovation category, for their Electronic Assistive Technology (EAT) products.



THE QUEEN'S AWARDS
FOR ENTERPRISE
INNOVATION
2009



Possum Electronic Assistive Technology (EAT)



For many of us, drawing the curtains, making a telephone call, sending an email or changing the television channel is an every day activity.

Possum's specialist assistive technology enables elderly and/or disabled individuals to perform these tasks by themselves, which reduces the reliance on another person, providing greater independence, empowerment and freedom.

Electronic Assistive Technology (EAT) systems comprise of several devices working together to enable users to control their environment. They enable individuals to operate equipment and appliances such as doors, windows, curtains, telephone, lights, TV, DVD and alarms for emergency; via an easy to use wirefree controller.

Electronic Assistive Technology (EAT) systems comprise of several devices working together to enable users to control their environment

EAT systems meet the needs for:

- Security (alarms, intercom systems and door locks)
- Communications (telephone operation, nurse/warden call systems, pagers)
- Comfort (power sockets, lights, curtains/blinds, multifunction beds and chairs)
- Entertainment (TV, satellite/digital TV, DVD, music systems, radio, page-turners)
- Access control (door/window openers, lifts)
- Personal Computers (business, email, internet)

Remote controllers

Possum provide a range of remote controllers to operate a variety of appliances, including all of the above items and more. The controllers work via infra-red and can operate most items that have an infra-red capability. Controllers are programmed to an individual user's requirements or can be simply standardised for all equipment.

How can severely disabled people use the remote controllers?

Disabled people who are unable to hold a conventional remote control handset or press buttons can use a switch. Specialist switches enable users with even the most minimal movement to operate our remote controllers. They can control their environment by simply touching a large switch using either the head, chin, hand, finger, arm, knee, elbow or foot or sipping and puffing into a mouthpiece.

Accessories

Most electronic equipment which is supplied with a remote control can be operated by a Possum controller via a process incorporating capturing infra-red. These include items such as: TV, DVD, Satellite or Cable set top boxes, Stereo and Apple iPod/MP3 players.

For control of all other items such as the curtains, lamps, doors, windows etc accessories will be required, a range of which can be supplied by Possum.



Possum Remote Controlled Accessories:



Windows

Windows can be opened and closed with an operator that facilitates inward/outward opening.



Curtains and Blinds

Curtains or blinds can be opened and closed remotely via the motorised track.



Doors

Internal and external doors can be opened, closed or released via an operator which can be fitted to most types of existing doors.

Possum also provide a range of other fixed infrastructure EAT solutions including:

- Lift controls - enabling further access to a building where applicable.
- Intercoms and door lock/release provides privacy in an individuals living space. The Possum Freedom telephone/intercom system enables a disabled person to communicate with a caller at the front door and, if appropriate, to unlock and even open the door to allow the caller to enter.

Possum provides a range of remote controllers to operate all of the above items and more. For further information on our range of controllers please contact us.



What are the key stages in implementing EAT?

Stage I: Planning

Our involvement at the early stage of a project ensures that our expertise can be applied, along with our understanding of the needs and requirements of the clients, to reduce risk and deliver within time and on budget. EAT should be considered at the initial planning stage when discussions are taking place with the customer/developer on new build and refurbishment projects. Possum work with a variety of customers in their understanding of the EAT applications available and the benefits they provide.

Possum provides practical advice and assessments are made of users needs and the building in which a system is to be installed.

The project management process will include liaising with customers, architects, building and electrical contractors and an involvement in the on-site installation.

Stage 2: Design

What do I need to consider at the design stage?

Users can open/close the curtains or blinds and the window when required without the need for assistance. They can also open the door to access their room, garden, communal areas etc.

Item	What should be considered
Door internal	Fused spurs in the vicinity of door. Positioning of push pad. Door furniture/roller catch/lock. Connection to fire alarm circuit if required. Adequate reveal and reinforcement of the area above door.
Door external	Fused spurs in the vicinity of door. Type and material construction of the door. Locking mechanism. Connection to fire alarm circuit if required. Adequate reveal and reinforcement of the area above door.
Windows	Fused spur in the vicinity of window.
Curtains/Blind	Fused spur in the vicinity of curtain rail/blind. Baton to fix the rail to.

Stage 3: Installation

Possum will liaise with key contractors on the fixtures and fittings required for the installation of EAT. Possum provide a complete service to install all required accessories including door, curtain, blind and window operators.

Stage 4: Client Assessment

Client Specific EAT Solutions- Assessment and Prescription Services

Possum users may be affected by any of a number of disabilities including conditions such as Cerebral Palsy or Spina Bifida, Motor Neurone Disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's and spinal or head injuries. Possum's professional staff have the benefit of many decades of accumulated experience in carrying out assessments of the needs of individual clients as their needs will vary.

Assessments are carried out independently by a member of Possum staff in conjunction with care professionals.

Installation, maintenance and support for EAT and integrated systems

The installation includes training for the user and their carers or family members in how to use the system. Possum recommends that a maintenance contract is taken out. This includes an annual visit to service the system and carry out any reprogramming, re-assessment and additional training which may be appropriate. In addition, Possum will respond to any fault calls within a maximum of 48 hours.

Post Installation - Maintenance and Support

Possum provides on-going maintenance and support for equipment and users. Full training will be provided on all installed equipment ensuring all staff and clients are proficient in utilising the EAT solutions provided. Possum has an extensive network of directly employed field based service and installation engineers together with in house customer service administrators and technical helpline staff. Our dedicated Building Projects management team are available to discuss your project requirements.

Stage 5: Support



Why include EAT in building projects?:



For further information on our range of EAT products and services please contact us or visit the website on www.electronicassistivetechology.com

The benefits of installing innovative Electronic Assistive Technology (EAT) include:

1. Cost saving at planning stage

Our involvement at an early stage of a project ensures that our expertise can be applied, along with our understanding of the needs and requirements of the clients, to reduce risk and deliver within budget and on time.

2. Enhance independence and quality of life

EAT products and services are improving the quality of life and the independent living opportunities for people with a range of disabilities.

3. Supports the most efficient utilisation of care staff in residential and nursing homes, schools and hospices.

4. Residential homes equipped with EAT are also appealing to potential private and public sector customers and clients.

5. Home for life – Future Proofing.

www.electronicassistivetechology.com

Contact us at:

Possum Ltd
8 Farmbrough Close Stocklake
Park Industrial Estate
Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 1DQ
T 01296 461000 F 0871 666 3520
E sales@possum.co.uk



Possum Ltd Registered in England no. 711047
VAT Registered no. GB 685 8853 64