

Skype buys messaging startup GroupMe

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GroupMe was founded in 2010 at the Techcrunch Disrupt Hackathon and is headquartered in New York.

The deal, coupled with the acquisition of mobile video provider Qik earlier this year, "augments Skype's role as an [innovator](#) in driving unique [mobile user](#) experiences," the company said in a statement.

"Through the acquisition of GroupMe, [Skype](#) continues its drive to

provide a global multi-modal and multi-platform communications experience. The acquisition of GroupMe complements Skype's leadership in voice and video communications by providing best in class text-based communications and innovative features that enable users to connect, share locations and photos and make plans with their closest ties."

Tony Bates, Skype's chief executive, said GroupMe "has created an incredibly sticky group messaging experience that works across mobile devices and platforms, making this a perfect addition to the voice, video and text products in the Skype family."

Founded in 2003 and based in Luxembourg, Skype is in the process of being acquired by US software giant Microsoft after being spun off by [eBay](#).

Microsoft said recently it hopes to close the deal for purchase of the Internet voice and video leader by October, once it gets the green light from European regulators.

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