

# Sound-based login startup joins Google tech chorus

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A Google logo is seen through the windows of Moscone Center in San Francisco during Google's annual developer conference on June 28, 2012 in California

An Israel-based startup specializing in using sounds instead of passwords for logging in said Monday it has been bought by Google.

SlickLogin did not disclose financial terms of the deal, and Google did not respond to an AFP request for comment about the acquisition.

"We started SlickLogin because [security measures](#) had become overly complicated and annoying," the startup's three-member team said in a post on their website.

"Our friends thought we were insane, but we knew we could do better."

The SlickLogin trio in Tel Aviv said they are joining the Google team with the mission of making the Internet safer for people while keeping the log-in process easy.

The founders of the company are billed as products of the cyber [security](#) unit of the Israel Defense Forces.

SlickLogin is barely two months old and has yet to field a commercial product but is reported to be developing a way to protect online accounts with a technique akin to sonic handshakes.

The technology involves sending barely audible sounds through computer speakers and then having the users' smartphones recognize the unique tones and respond in kind. It also reportedly factors in the location of smartphones.

"Just place your phone next to your laptop/tablet and you can login," SlickLogin said.

SlickLogin technology could replace passwords in some cases but is more likely to be looked at for use as an added layer of security in what is referred to as "two-factor authentication" to thwart [cyber criminals](#).

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