

## FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT

At-Ease Home Services, Inc. a Delaware corporation 2450 Bluebell Drive, Suite B Santa Rosa, CA 95403 (844) 225-2897 E-mail: info@at-ease.com Website: www.atease.com



APR 1 4 2017

Department of Business Oversight Los Angeles Office



The franchisee will operate a home automation sales, installation and support services franchise under the name At-Ease Home Services. The total initial investment necessary to begin operation of the franchised business ranges from \$101,200 to \$225,000. This includes \$77,500 that must be paid to the franchisor or affiliate.

This disclosure document summarizes certain provisions of your franchise agreement and other information in plain English. Read this disclosure document and all accompanying agreements carefully. You must receive this disclosure document at least 14 calendar days before you sign a binding agreement with, or make any payment to, the franchisor or an affiliate in connection with the proposed franchise sale. **Note, however, that no governmental agency has verified the information contained in this document.** 

You may wish to receive your disclosure document in another format that is more convenient for you. To discuss the availability of disclosures in different formats, contact Douglas Klein at 2450 Bluebell Drive, Suite B, Santa Rosa, CA 95403; telephone: (844) 225-2897, extension 922.

The terms of your contract will govern your franchise relationship. Don't rely on the disclosure document alone to understand your contract. Read all of your contract carefully. Show your contract and this disclosure document to an advisor, like a lawyer or an accountant.

Buying a franchise is a complex investment. The information in this disclosure document can help you make up your mind. More information on franchising, such as "A Consumer's Guide to Buying a Franchise," which can help you understand how to use this disclosure document, is available from the Federal Trade Commission. You can contact the FTC at 1-877-FTC-HELP or by writing to the FTC at 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20580. You can also visit the FTC's home page at <u>www.ftc.gov</u> for additional information. Call your state agency or visit your public library for other sources of information on franchising.

There may also be laws on franchising in your state. Ask your state agencies about them.

Issuance Date: March 6, 2017



## STATE COVER PAGE AT-EASE HOME SERVICES, INC.

Your state may have a franchise law that requires a franchisor to register or file with a state franchise administrator before offering or selling in your state. REGISTRATION OF A FRANCHISE BY A STATE DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE STATE RECOMMENDS THE FRANCHISE OR HAS VERIFIED THE INFORMATION IN THIS DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT.

Call the state franchise administrator listed in **Exhibit A** for information about the franchisor or about franchising in your state.

MANY FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS DO NOT ALLOW YOU TO RENEW UNCONDITIONALLY AFTER THE INITIAL TERM EXPIRES. YOU MAY HAVE TO SIGN A NEW AGREEMENT WITH DIFFERENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE YOUR BUSINESS. BEFORE YOU BUY, CONSIDER WHAT RIGHTS YOU HAVE TO RENEW YOUR FRANCHISE, IF ANY, AND WHAT TERMS YOU MIGHT HAVE TO ACCEPT IN ORDER TO RENEW.

Please consider the following RISK FACTORS before you buy this franchise:

- 1. THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT REQUIRES YOU TO RESOLVE DISPUTES WITH US BY MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION ONLY IN THE CITY AND STATE IN WHICH OUR HEADQUARTERS IS LOCATED, CURRENTLY SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA. OUT OF STATE MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION MAY FORCE YOU TO ACCEPT A LESS FAVORABLE SETTLEMENT FOR DISPUTES. IT MAY ALSO COST YOU MORE TO MEDIATE OR ARBITRATE WITH US IN CALIFORNIA THAN IN YOUR OWN STATE.
- 2. THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT STATES THAT CALIFORNIA LAW GOVERNS THE AGREEMENT, AND THIS LAW MAY NOT PROVIDE THE SAME PROTECTIONS AND BENEFITS AS LOCAL LAW. YOU MAY WANT TO COMPARE THESE LAWS.
- 3. THE FRANCHISOR IS AT AN EARLY STATE OF DEVELOPMENT AND HAS A LIMITED OPERATING HISTORY. THIS FRANCHISE IS LIKELY TO BE A RISKIER INVESTMENT THAN A FRANCHISE IN A SYSTEM WITH A LONGER OPERATING HISTORY.
- 4. YOUR SPOUSE MAY BE REQUIRED TO SIGN A DOCUMENT, SUCH AS A GUARANTEE, THAT MAKES YOUR SPOUSE LIABLE FOR YOUR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS FRANCHISE AGREEMENT EVEN IF YOUR SPOUSE DOES NOT OWN ANY PART OF THE FRANCHISE BUSINESS. IF YOU LIVE IN A COMMUNITY PROPERTY STATE, YOUR SPOUSE MAY BE LIABLE FOR YOUR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS EVEN IF HE OR SHE HASN'T SIGNED ANYTHING. IN EITHER CASE, BOTH YOU

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AND YOUR SPOUSE'S MARITAL AND PERSONAL ASSETS, INCLUDING YOUR HOUSE, COULD BE LOST IF YOUR FRANCHISE FAILS.

- 5. YOU MUST MEET MINIMUM PERFORMANCE LEVELS. YOUR INABILITY TO MAINTAIN THESE LEVELS MAY RESULT IN TERMINATION OF YOUR FRANCHISE AND LOSS OF YOUR INVESTMENT.
- 6. THERE MAY BE OTHER RISKS CONCERNING THIS FRANCHISE.

Effective Date: See the next page for state effective dates.

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