

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): **March 24, 2025**

SmartKem, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-42115
(Commission
File Number)

85-1083654
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

**Manchester Technology Center, Hexagon Tower
Delaunays Road, Blackley
Manchester, M9 8GQ U.K.**
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

011-44-161-721-1514
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

N/A
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

<u>Title of each class</u>	<u>Trading Symbol(s)</u>	<u>Name of exchange on which registered</u>
Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share	SMTK	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b - 2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b - 2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 8.01 Other Events

On March 24, 2025, SmartKem, Inc. issued a press release announcing that it has signed a memorandum of understanding with RiTdisplay Corporation. A copy of the press release is filed as Exhibit 99.1 hereto and is incorporated by reference herein.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release, dated March 24, 2025
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

Signature

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

SMARTKEM, INC.

Dated: March 24, 2025

By: /s/ Barbra C. Keck
Barbra C. Keck
Chief Financial Officer

Smartkem

PRESS RELEASE

Smartkem Signs Memorandum of Understanding with RiTdisplay to Integrate Smartkem's OTFT Process Into Its Gen2.5 Line

Creation of a commercial pilot line at RiTdisplay is a significant step towards commercialization of Smartkem's OTFT technology

MANCHESTER, England, Mar. 24, 2025 -- Smartkem (Nasdaq: SMTK), which is seeking to change the world of electronics with a new class of transistor technology, has announced a memorandum of understanding with RiTdisplay Corporation, a leading developer of optoelectronic solutions, visual displays and passive-matrix OLED displays, to evaluate the integration of Smartkem's organic thin-film transistor (OTFT) process on RiTdisplay's Gen2.5 pilot line to expand Smartkem's product prototyping capability.

The memorandum of understanding is a significant progression in the collaboration work between Smartkem and RiTdisplay, which started with an initial joint development agreement in 2021, and includes the 2024 commencement of a UK and Taiwanese government grant-funded project to develop the world's first commercially ready active-matrix OLED display using OTFT technology. Under the memorandum of understanding, product prototyping capabilities will be transferred from the Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI)'s Gen2.5 line to a newly integrated Gen2.5 pilot line at RiTdisplay. The parties expect that the RiTdisplay line will be available for use in the second half of 2025.

RiTdisplay GM Robert Chen said, "This phase of our collaboration marks a major milestone forward in delivering a new generation of AMOLED displays to the global market and reinforces the commitment of both companies to innovation and commercial excellence. We look forward to delivering customer demonstrations later this year and accelerating the market adoption of OTFT-based AMOLED displays in multiple end markets. RiTdisplay remains committed to driving innovation across multiple display technologies, including PMOLED and OTFT. This collaboration with Smartkem allows us to explore new possibilities while continuing to enhance our core technologies."

Smartkem Chairman and CEO Ian Jenks said, "This is a major step forward in our strategy to commercialize our unique transistor technology. Once complete, we will be able to provide product prototyping of the world's first commercially ready AMOLED display using OTFT technology on a commercial Gen2.5 OTFT product manufacturing line at RiTdisplay's existing state-of-the-art facility in Hsinchu, Taiwan."

The memorandum of understanding is non-binding and there can be no assurance as to whether or when a definitive agreement will be executed by the parties or as to the ultimate terms of any such agreement.

About Smartkem

Smartkem is seeking to change the world of electronics with a new class of transistor using its proprietary advanced semiconductor materials that have the potential to revolutionize the display industry. Smartkem's TRUFLEX® semiconductor technology enables low temperature printing processes that are compatible with existing manufacturing infrastructure with the potential to deliver low-cost, high performance displays in a range of display technologies including microLED, miniLED and AMOLED, as well as applications in sensors and logic.

Smartkem develops its materials at its research and development facility in Manchester, UK and provides prototyping services at the Centre for Process Innovation (CPI) at Sedgefield, UK. It has a field application office in Taiwan. The company has an extensive IP portfolio including 138 granted patents across 17 patent families, 17 pending patents and 40 codified trade secrets. For more information, visit our [website](#) or follow us on [LinkedIn](#).

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Smartkem

PRESS RELEASE

About RiTdisplay Corporation

RiTdisplay is the world's leader of passive matrix organic light emitting diode (PMOLED). RiTdisplay not only holds the world's largest PMOLED production capacity, but also supplies its product to multiple Tier 1 customers around the world. With its main applications ranging from smart appliances, medical devices, set-top boxes, wearables, industrial instruments, to AIOT products.

Forward-Looking Statements

All statements in this press release that are not historical are forward-looking statements, including, among other things, its market position and market opportunity, expectations and plans as to its product development, manufacturing and sales, and relations with its partners and investors. These statements are not historical facts but rather are based on Smartkem, Inc.'s current expectations, estimates, and projections regarding its business, operations and other similar or related factors. Words such as "may," "will," "could," "would," "should," "anticipate," "predict," "potential," "continue," "expect," "intend," "plan," "project," "believe," "estimate," and other similar or related expressions are used to identify these forward-looking statements, although not all forward-looking statements contain these words. You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements because they involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and assumptions that are difficult or impossible to predict and, in some cases, beyond the Company's control. Actual results may differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements as a result of a number of factors, including those described in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company undertakes no obligation to revise or update information in this release to reflect events or circumstances in the future, even if new information becomes available.

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