

Primer

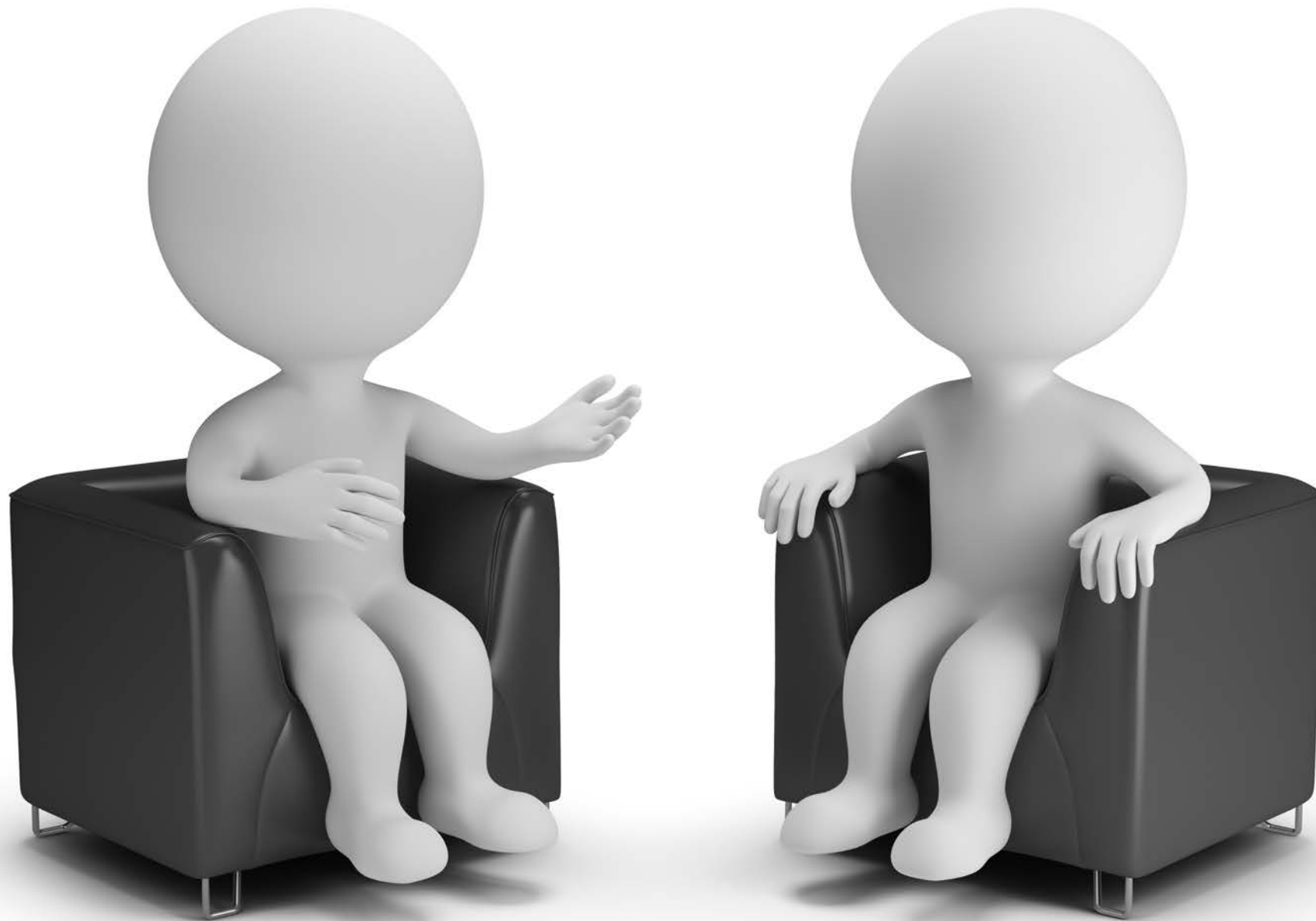
*Getting Your Company Comfortable with Bringing Your Dog to Work
Not Just One Day but Every Day*



You love your dog. You know that other peeps will love your dog, too. Who wouldn't? After all, dogs make good companies better.



What a great thing it would be to bring your furry friend to work every day. But how do you convince your boss?



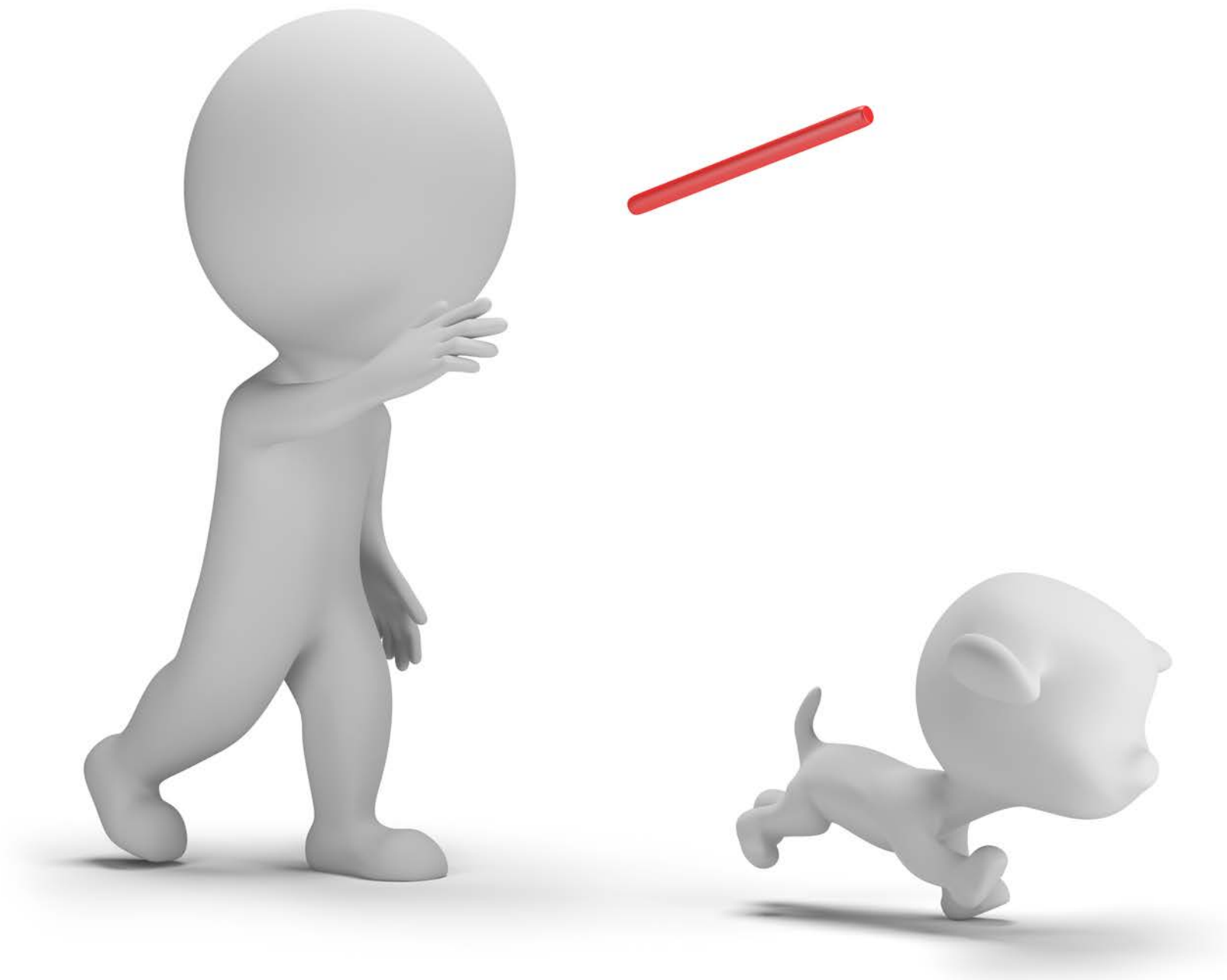
Don't start with your boss. Start with the obvious: fellow dog lovers.



It's pawsitively great to have allies in the company who support your idea before you approach the boss.



Do some future-casting with like-minded employees. Social change does not happen without a groundswell of acceptance. You might even form a small committee with others to determine the pros and cons of dogs at your workplace.



Let's face it. Having a dog is not a complete bed of roses. It's an art. You need discipline, guidelines, borders, and love. Lots and lots of love. You need to apply that art when you're thinking about bringing your dog to work. How to contain them? How to give them some freedom? What does break time look like in the workplace?



So before you approach your boss: #1) have support from fellow employees, #2) do some thinking about your approach, and #3) . . .



. . . Start small. Before you change the world, start small. Try a day. Try a week. You cannot be 100 percent certain your company is the right company for dogs. They're dogs, for heaven's sake, not widgets! Starting small shows you are both responsible and intuitive. These are important and good traits for any employee to have.



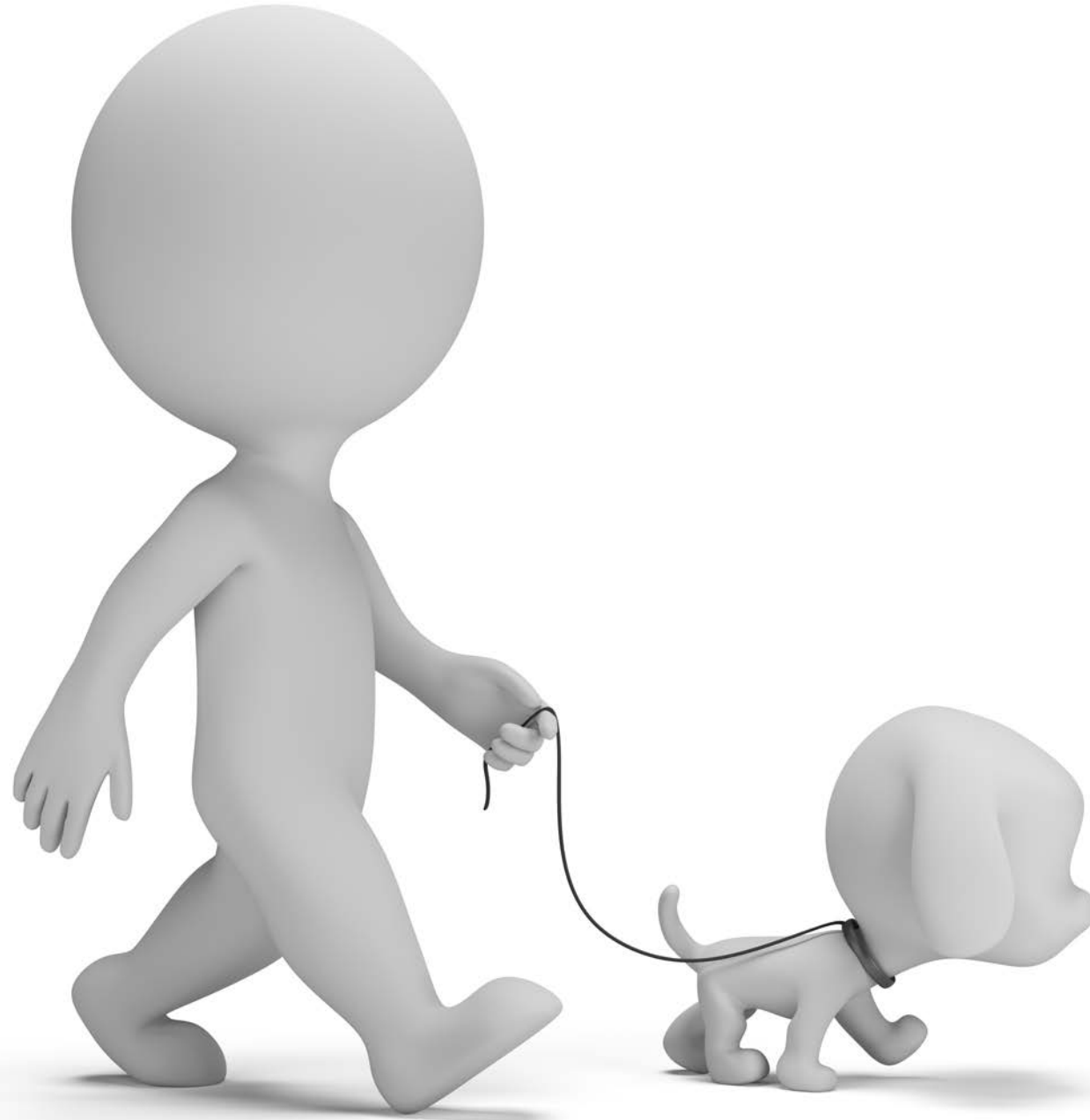
One way to start small is to take advantage of National “**Take Your Dog to Work Day,**” which is coming up on Friday, June 21, 2019. Companies from all over the country are coming together to promote Dogs at Work. It’s just one day . . . but it’s a start. And if you do elect to make that a beta-day, make sure it has every chance of succeeding.



For instance, when you are need to leave, how do you contain your dog? If you have a door to your office, that's easy. But if you have a cubicle, you should consider bringing in a baby or dog gate. They're inexpensive, you can get them almost everywhere, and they do the trick.



And you have a desk, but what about a desk for your pup? Dog Desk= Dog Bed. Remember, having and caring for a dog is an art.



Another thing to remember is that all dogs need a place to relieve themselves. Is there a place for them to “go” that is adjacent to your workplace?



On the Beta-Dog-Day, whether it's on June 21st or another day, please talk to your fellow employees and do not bring aggressive dogs, dogs that aren't "house broken," or dogs that have not had all their shots (including rabies).



Treats for Google's Dogs



To a dog, nothing speaks of HOME more than being close to his or her master. But some treats, a few toys, and a water bowl with fresh water sure helps!



Companies are all about the people. And most companies in America are small-business companies. According to the latest census bureau report, over 98.2 percent of American businesses have less than 100 employees. Dogs help us engage with other people from the company. If it's sunny and warm outside, why not have a lunch picnic with the peeps and the pups?



Also, don't forget to be mindful of the employees who are not big fans of dogs. Be sensitive to their space and their needs. And DON'T try to convert them to dog-lovers . . . just yet :-).



Once you've had a successful first day, talk to one another about the pros and cons. Reach a consensus with HR, your boss, and one another on how it can be better next time.



Plan another successful dog day. And, soon enough, you'll find dogs at your workplace become a daily privilege.



Dogs at Work applauds last year's winners of The DOG Award for excellence in the successful integration of dogs in the workplace. We look forward to this year's winners. To Dogs at Work, every company is a winner. Dogs just make good companies even better.

To learn more about the benefits of dogs in the workplace, please find our other PDFs available for a free download on our website, dogsatwork.us or on our Facebook page.

The following are available:

Best Practices

Why Dogs Belong in the Workplace

Creating a Successful Dog Policy



With Gratitude to Our Sponsor



Dogs at Work is a social-advocacy company that makes good companies better through the successful integration of dogs in the workplace. If you would like to join us or make a contribution please contact us through our website dogsatwork.us or through our Facebook group, Dogs at Work.

THANK YOU!