METIS SECURE SOLUTIONS
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Mass Notification Made Easy

Pennsylvania Community College Implements All-Hazards Emergency Protection with Metis Secure

A Pennsylvania Community College with ten locations throughout multiple counties recently turned to Metis Secure to protect its people and campuses.

Metis Secure develops innovative, IP-based emergency notification and communications solutions that help organizations respond rapidly and effectively when a crisis strikes—from large-scale events such as extreme weather and violent attacks, to workplace incidents such as sudden employee health or injury emergencies. In an emergency, fast, effective communications can prevent or mitigate disaster, save lives, and avert or limit damage to property and reputation.

The community college chose Metis Secure's advanced emergency communications system for three reasons:

- If an emergency strikes, authorized personnel can use the system to broadcast actionable, highly intrusive alerts and instructions to everyone who may be in danger— students, staff, and visitors. Metis Secure Emergency Help Stations throughout the affected location erupt with high decibel voice directives, corresponding instructions on built-in LCD screens, and sirens and flashing lights for urgency. People instantly know what they need to do to reach safety.

- The system provides protection in another way as well: people in need can press the help button on any Metis Secure Emergency Help Station to instantly speak with security over the college's IP network—no phone lines required. The system automatically transmits the location where help is needed, so security can respond with maximum speed.

- Finally, it was critical that the college have the power to seamlessly manage multiple campuses from one or multiple locations. Only Metis Secure's cloud-based emergency communications and management system gives them that capability.

The community college's emergency preparedness relies on Metis Secure's communications and management software platform, called the Command Center. The Metis Secure Command Center software unifies and controls a variety of communications devices across multiple campuses, via the college's IP network. These include Metis Secure's multi-modal Emergency Help Stations, and upcoming expansion to the college's digital signs.

Authorized security personnel at main or satellite campuses operate the system through any computer browser, or via Metis Secure's mobile interface from any smart phone or tablet. They can monitor and control emergency communications at multiple campuses via the GIS map view, or drill into buildings and floor plans to manage communications to and from individual buildings, floors, and devices.

All of this means that if an emergency strikes, the college can instantly broadcast pinpoint or widespread emergency alerts and instructions to the people who need to know—whether the incident is a gas leak that affects only one building, or an extreme weather emergency that affects multiple campuses.

And, the college now has a powerful safety net if someone urgently requires help or needs to report a potentially dangerous situation. When someone presses an Emergency Help Station button, the system alerts security with an urgent "call for help" audio prompt, and instantly displays the precise call location on the Command Center map. Security personnel can speak with the caller via Voice Over IP and rapidly determine what action is needed.

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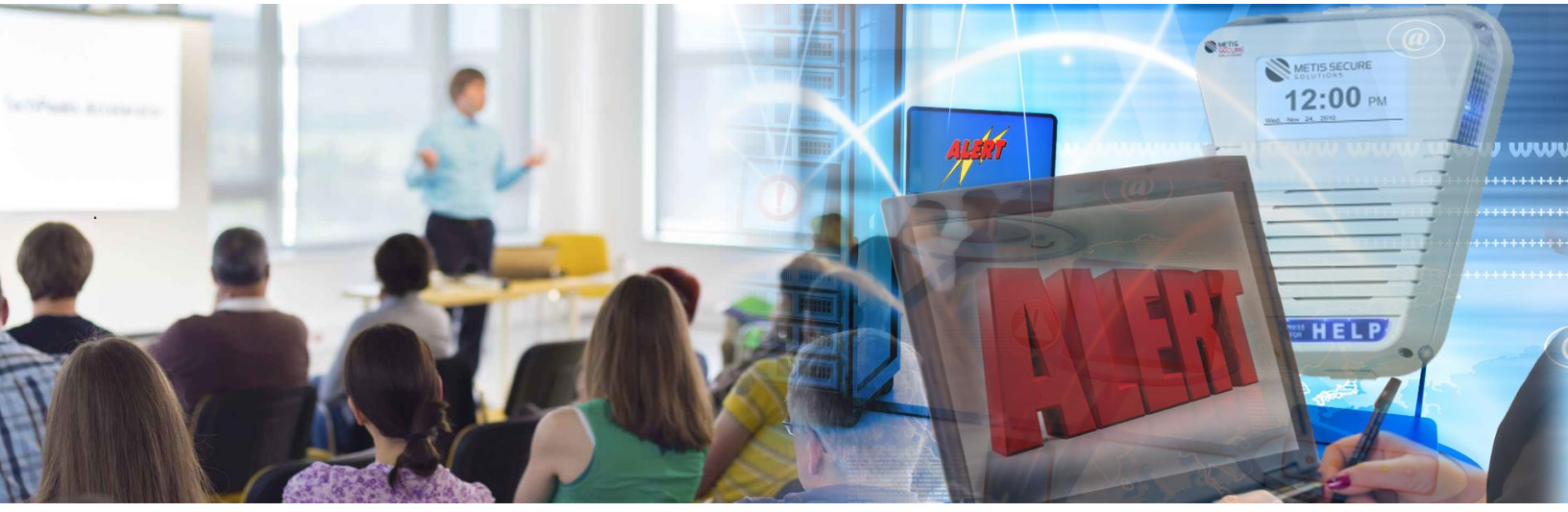
Easy Installation and Expansion

Metis Secure uploaded the software platform to a server at the college's main campus, and configured the system for the college's network.

In tandem, a Metis Secure integrator partner installed Emergency Help Stations at strategic indoor and outdoor locations at the college's newly renovated technology center campus. The process was straightforward: the integrator ran cable from nearby network closets to designated Help Station locations, attached the Emergency Help Stations to the walls, and plugged in the Ethernet connectors. Indoor Help Stations are PoE; Outdoor Help Stations require simple 12-24V DC power as well. Both Indoor and Outdoor Help Stations feature long-life, rechargeable battery back-up. Once everything was installed, configured, and powered up, the system came up automatically.



The college is planning to extend the system to IP phones, so dispatchers can use their desk phones to answer help calls from the Metis Secure system. In the meantime, Help Station installation at a second campus is currently underway. The system is also planned for near-term expansion to two additional campuses.

Because the system can leverage so much of what the college already owns—their IP network infrastructure, digital signs, IP phones, and much more—the college was able to put in place an advanced emergency communications and management system for a very reasonable investment of money and time. With their Metis Secure system, the college now has the power to provide maximum emergency protection across their campus network—and the system's ultra-flexibility gives them almost infinite room to grow over time.

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