

CASE STUDY

Educational Facilities



University of Notre Dame

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The shootings that took place at Sandy Hook and Virginia Tech have prompted ongoing conversations about how to better handle and react to these scenarios.

These events have created a wider discussion about how to reach all individuals across multiple facilities or areas in the event of any type of emergency.

About Notre Dame

The University of Notre Dame is a private institution founded in 1842 and dedicated to excellence in teaching, research and service guided by its Catholic mission. It enrolls some 8,460 undergraduates and 3,830 graduate and professional students on a campus spanning 1,261 acres with 174 administrative, academic and student residence buildings. Notre Dame is consistently ranked among the top twenty universities in the United States and is the leading Catholic university in the world.

Situation

After decades of having separate buildings deploy various paging and audio systems, and many locations without any communications, the University of Notre Dame recognized it was time to combine those systems and add new ones into one unified mass notification system.

The objective was to install a comprehensive system for PA, general announcements and mass notification within the 170 plus building complex, spanning over a thousand acres. In addition, all communications would need to be monitored and controlled at multiple locations on campus (Security and IT).

Digital Acoustics Solution

After completing numerous walk-throughs for acoustic and aesthetic research and meeting with heads of security, a custom-tailored IP audio system was built using Digital Acoustics' hardware and software.

In buildings where acoustic ceiling tiles already existed, Digital Acoustics' Ceiling Tile Speakers (SPKR-IP System12) were used as a simple lay-in solution. Outside, a range of weather-resistant horns were positioned throughout the campus to cover courtyards, athletic fields, and parking lots for mass notification.

In areas with restricted wiring options, the University used a simple solution of installing a Digital Acoustics' IP Intercom (IP7-FX) in front of an existing amplifier or fire panel, instantly connecting that building to the head-end software.

Results

The University not only deployed a new, effective mass notification system, but with a simplified installation, did so with limited downtime. Scalability of the notification system allows the University to keep up as buildings are added and renovated. The Digital Acoustics solution now provides reliable, quality emergency notification to thousands of University faculty, students, staff and visitors.



Photo: University of Notre Dame

About Digital Acoustics

Digital Acoustics develops and manufactures network-based IP Audio devices including intercoms, amplifiers and speakers and the software to manage and interact with those end points. Since 2003, Digital Acoustics has been at the forefront of IP audio technology serving the following markets: Higher Education, Retail, Commercial/Industrial, Remote Monitoring and Security, and Military and Government.

Contact our team today to learn about your options in deploying reliable, cost-efficient Intercom, Paging and Mass Notification solutions.

Visit us at www.digitalacoustics.com or you can reach a sales manager by calling: 847-604-9256.