



CONESTOGA
Connect Life and Learning

COLLEGE STRENGTHENS EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN WITH **BLAZECAST PAGING**

"I would recommend BlazeCast for other schools"

-Michael Abraham
Technical Support Specialist
Conestoga College

Overview

Country: Canada

Industry: Higher Education

Customer Profile

Conestoga College, with 5 campuses throughout southwestern Ontario, reaches over 45 000 students through career-oriented programs. Conestoga has an operating budget of CDN\$131 million.

Business Challenge

Conestoga needed the ability to flexibly page across 11 overhead paging zones and over 250 classrooms in order to meet the goals of the emergency response plan.

Solution

Benbria's BlazeCast IP Paging tool, enables customizable paging to any configuration of speakers and VOIP handsets through a map-based interface.

Challenge

Conestoga College, Canada's premier polytechnic institute, has over 45 000 students spread across five campuses in southwestern Ontario. Conestoga is constantly updating its emergency response plan to better ensure the safety of their staff and students. Conestoga needed the ability to flexibly page across 11 zones throughout their campuses, and over 250 phone handsets, in order to improve emergency response times, and provide cost-effective daily messaging capabilities.

Solution

Michael Abraham, Technical Support Specialist at Conestoga, says "Benbria's BlazeCast solution is the only system that met our need to quickly communicate with faculty and students on our campus." BlazeCast's ability to integrate with existing overhead paging systems meant that Conestoga is able to leverage their existing paging infrastructure, increasing return on investment. Blazecast also provides set paging to over 250 Mitel handsets, expanded paging coverage on Conestoga's campus.

BlazeCast's IP paging system allows administrators to target their pages to any combination of paging zones, while not disturbing staff and students elsewhere on campus. With BlazeCast's easy to use web interface, administrators can pre-record messages for numerous situations like school closures, emergency evacuations and other events that threaten the campus or the safety of students. Pre-recorded messages will cut down in broadcast preparation time, increase efficiency, and reduce errors in stressful situations.



INSTALLATION AT A GLANCE

Conestoga College

- » 45 000 students
- » 5 Campuses
- » 11 Buildings

Overhead Paging

- » 11 pre-existing overhead analog paging zones on 3 campuses
- » Integrated into one centralized IP paging system

Set Paging

- » 256 Mitel 5212 IP Phones
- » Paged individually or in any configuration on the fly

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-Michael Abraham
Technical Support Specialist
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Results

BlazeCast's functionality "is critical in our ability to respond to emergencies, as well as improving staff productivity in daily communication," says Abraham. He was also very pleased with Benbria's responsiveness during the install process. With BlazeCast, Conestoga was able to leverage their existing paging infrastructure to create an essential multi-campus emergency and daily notification tool. Abraham "would recommend BlazeCast for other schools, particularly with large and dispersed campuses like ours."

BlazeCast



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