



News Release

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Campus Emergency Alert System Soon to Be Deployed

PIERRE, S.D. – A new emergency alert system for the public university system in South Dakota will soon be deployed, the Board of Regents was told Thursday.

After reviewing proposals from five vendors and testing products from three of those companies earlier this year, a regents' task force selected 3n (National Notification Network), a leading provider of mass notification systems, to supply the emergency alert system. 3n officials are currently implementing and testing the new system, and estimated it could be fully functional for emergency use around April 30.

“It is critical that we have such a system in place to quickly and effectively communicate with students, faculty, and staff in a variety of ways, utilizing multiple technologies,” said Regents Executive Director Robert T. Tad Perry. “This company has considerable experience working with large corporations, healthcare systems, colleges and universities, and government agencies.” The system will enable emergency notifications to be sent anywhere or anytime via phone, email, instant and text messaging, fax, personal digital assistants, and pagers.

Perry said a coordinated system will help ensure campus safety, as well as an immediate and appropriate response to campus emergencies. Emergency alert systems are being successfully used by other higher education institutions across the country to assist in campus safety alerts, evacuations, class cancellations, crisis team activation, and instant campus briefings.