

FREE CAMPUS SAFETY APP GOES LIVE

WEST MALLING, UNITED KINGDOM, 15 FEBRUARY 2016 – Newcastle University security is launching a new app to provide around the clock reassurance to students and staff on campus.

Going live on 15 February, the SafeZone mobile app will be available for free to students and staff. It allows students and staff to summon assistance, while enabling security teams to implement a fast and coordinated response to every day events through to full-scale emergencies. Featuring mass notification and monitoring for users working alone, SafeZone improves the effectiveness of security teams, while improving compliance with policies and procedures.

With the app rollout, the University joins forces with Northumbria University and other local agencies, including Northumbria Police, to maximise the benefits of the SafeZone service as part of Newcastle's Safe City initiative to extend emergency response services.

Shed Coulthard, Estates Security Manager, Newcastle University, said: "The personal wellbeing of students and staff is our top priority and while we uphold an impeccable record on safety – in a city widely regarded as one of the safest places to study in the UK – we are always open to innovative use of technology to ensure that we continue to deliver the best possible student experience.

"While our campus is already very safe, the SafeZone app will give extra re-assurance to our students and staff. It will also help us to work closer with partners across the city and to continue providing efficient response to incidents at any scale."

Darren Chalmers-Stevens, Director EMEA at CriticalArc, developers of the app, said: "Newcastle University is part of a growing number of universities in Europe and Australia to offer SafeZone. The app will complement the outstanding work of the University's security team while giving staff and students a simple and quick means to request assistance when they need it."

The cloud-based service will be supported on campus and geo fenced safe zones in the city, including popular routes between campus buildings, halls of residence and parts of the city centre. Users will be able to check the app to see if an area off-campus is monitored as a safe zone.

SafeZone is available to download at <http://www.safezoneapp.com/> For more information, please contact Shed Coulthard, Estates Security Manager, Newcastle University shed.coulthard@newcastle.ac.uk

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About CriticalArc

A global technology innovator, CriticalArc designs and delivers the distributed command and control solution, SafeZone™, which is revolutionising the way organisations manage security operations. Deployed in hours, SafeZone combines complete situational awareness with the mobile control needed for an efficient and coordinated response to incidents from every-day processes and events through to full-scale emergencies.

Headquartered in Australia, CriticalArc has offices and operations in Asia-Pacific, Europe, North America and Middle East.

Social media

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/safezoneapp>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/criticalarc>

About Newcastle University

- A Russell Group University with more than 23,000 students
- Ranked in the top 1% of universities in the world (QS World University Rankings 2014)
- Ranked 16th in the UK for global research power (REF 2014)
- Ranked 10th overall in the UK and 3rd for quality of staff/lecturers in the Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey 2015
- Winner: Outstanding Leadership and Management Team and Outstanding Procurement Team, Times Higher Leadership and Management Awards 2015
- Ranked joint 6th in the UK in the 2015 National Student Survey for student satisfaction
- Ranked 1st in the UK for Computing Science research impact, 3rd in the UK for Civil Engineering research power and 11th in the UK for Mathematical Sciences research (REF 2014)
- Ranked 8th in the UK for Medical and Life Sciences research quality (REF 2014)
- Ranked 3rd in the UK for English, and in the top 12 for Geography, Architecture and Planning, and Cultural and Media Studies research quality (REF 2014)
- Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) top 20 strategic partner
- 94% of its students are in a job or further training within six months of graduating
- World-class reputation for research excellence with specific expertise in ageing, sustainability and social renewal
- The first UK university to establish a fully owned international branch campus for medicine at its NUMed Campus in Malaysia which opened in 2011
- It has a campus in London opening in 2015 and a collaboration with Singapore Institute of



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Technology

- 90% satisfaction level from its international students (International Student Barometer 2013)
- Newcastle University Business School is one of 20 Triple Accredited Business Schools in the UK
- For more: www.ncl.ac.uk