

## Manchester Universities Pioneer UK's First Citywide Safety Initiative Using CriticalArc's SafeZone Alliance

*Game-changing collaboration between universities will speed incident response* 

MANCHESTER, CO, UNITED KINGDOM, September 29, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- A pioneering alliance between three Greater Manchester universities using SafeZone<sup>®</sup> technology from <u>CriticalArc</u>, enables security teams to provide faster response and assistance to their students and staff.

The University of Manchester, the University of Salford and Manchester Metropolitan University, working with CriticalArc, have created the Manchester <u>SafeZone</u> <u>Alliance</u>. A global first, the initiative enables the three security control rooms to extend the footprint of 24/7 support beyond their campus boundaries.

The partnership builds on Manchester's and Salford's reputations as safe and welcoming cities for students from across the UK and a favourite destination for international students.

Sam Grogan, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Student Experience, University of Salford

The three universities have each deployed SafeZone,

CriticalArc's unified safety, security and emergency management solution that provides Safety Everywhere<sup>™</sup>, wherever an organization has duty of care. Now, with the formation of the Manchester SafeZone Alliance, security staff from each campus will provide reciprocal support to each other's staff and students.

In the event of an emergency - including an accident, crime, or medical incident - help is available to SafeZone users at the press of a button. Using the SafeZone app on their phone, students and staff are directly connected to the appropriate safety and security team or first responder.

For example, if a University of Manchester student is walking home alone late at night through

the Manchester Metropolitan University campus, that individual will have the peace of mind that dedicated university first responder teams are instantly accessible at the tap of a button via SafeZone, confirming who needs assistance, their precise location, and the type of incident. The nearest first responders will be notified and dispatched to the scene to provide an efficient response. Only when an individual calls for help is the identity and location of that person shared with the university's security team.

"Student and staff wellbeing is always the top priority for all three universities, and we are pleased to put in place a technology solution that furthers this shared aim. Manchester and Salford have a long-standing reputation for being inclusive and welcoming destinations for students from around the world," said Dr Sam



Grogan, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Student Experience at University of Salford on behalf of the universities with the Manchester SafeZone Alliance group. "This pioneering cross-city initiative serves to enhance the safety and wellbeing of our university community."

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Student and staff wellbeing is always the top priority for all three universities. This pioneering cross-city initiative serves to enhance the safety and wellbeing of our university community." Dr. Sam Grogan, Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of

Salford

Darren Chalmers-Stevens, Managing Director of CriticalArc, said the introduction of the first SafeZone AllianceTM furthered CriticalArc's strategic objective to help customers extend safety and security across their wider communities to enhance the protection of millions of SafeZone users.

"We are delighted to be working with the University of Manchester, Manchester Metropolitan University and University of Salford on this ground-breaking project to give added reassurance for thousands of students and staff. The SafeZone Alliance sets these Greater Manchester universities apart and demonstrates their commitment to the wellbeing of students and staff, beyond traditional

campus boundaries. We believe this alliance will prove to be a catalyst for game-changing

cooperation between universities around the world."

For more information on CriticalArc and SafeZone go to <u>www.criticalarc.com</u> or email contact@criticalarc.com.

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Media Contacts

•IIara Farley, CriticalArc PR & Marketing Consultant, +44 (0)7785 707714 or e-mail tara@tmfmarketing.com
•Dniversity of Manchester: Jordan Kenny (News and Media Relations Manager), tel +44 (0)161 275 8257; mob +44 (0)7748 747079; email: jordan.kenny@manchester.ac.uk
•Dniversity of Salford news & media contacts: <u>https://www.salford.ac.uk/press-office</u>
•Chris Morris, Media Relations Manager. Email: c.morris@mmu.ac.uk. Mobile: 07775 017 859

Complimentary Media Assets (link contains the following):

oBroduct image of SafeZone Alliance oEogo of SafeZone Alliance oEogo of University of Manchester oEogo of Manchester Metropolitan University oEogo of Salford University oEideo of SafeZone Alliance oEleadshot of Dr Sam Grogan, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Student Experience at University of Salford oEleadshot of Darren Chalmers-Stevens, Managing Director, CriticalArc

About CriticalArc

Keeping your people safe is vital for today's organizations. CriticalArc's SafeZone, the unified safety, security and emergency management solution, provides Safety Everywhere™ for your people, wherever you have duty of care. Through Real-time Coordination and Response, organizations are empowered to respond faster and more effectively to incidents of any scale. And SafeZone's Operational Insights streamlines day-to-day operations and enables unprecedented post-incident learnings to continuously improve team performance and optimize future response. Quick to deploy, scalable, and easy to use, SafeZone is transforming how leading organizations manage the safety of millions of people every day. For more information, please visit www.criticalarc.com, email contact@criticalarc.com, or telephone +44 (0) 800 368 9876.

Gerard Laurain CriticalArc email us here

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