

Foundation Telecommunications, Inc. - FTI - Selected by Correctional Cable TV, Inc. for Distance-Learning Network Throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

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ROGERS, Ark.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Aug. 22, 2000

Foundation Telecommunications, Inc. (FTI) announces the contract award by Correctional Cable TV, Inc. a subsidiary of Classic Communications, Inc., for the installation of two fully integrated digital video uplink facilities, electronic distance learning origination studios and twenty-eight (28) classroom downlink facilities to be located throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Satellite Education Network (SEN), an innovation of Correctional Cable TV, Inc., is the newest technology applied to distance learning programming in correctional centers throughout the United States. The network utilizes fully interactive technology to provide real-time educational broadcasts in a cost-effective delivery model that provides high quality educational programming in essential areas of instruction.

Ron Schaeffer, Vice President Correctional Cable TV, Inc. has selected Foundation Telecommunications, Inc. as FTI will provide all required licensing and full turnkey installation of the two digital video uplink and studio facilities; one located in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania and one in Las Vegas, Nevada. Each uplink facility utilizes an MPEG1/MPEG2 encoding system provided by Wegener Communications, Inc. The distance learning origination studios are equipped with IP based interactive communications equipment for interaction between students and the instructor. FTI is also providing digital transponder time on Telstar 5 required for this distance learning application.

President/CEO of FTI, George Livergood, stated, "The unique application of the combination of Internet and digital satellite maximizes the strengths of each technology and is the key to the success of this network application. Satellite technology is at its best broadcasting from a central point to multiple points. Conversely, the Internet is best at providing communications from multiple points to a single point or server. The mix of both of these technologies results in a network that is more cost effective from a day-to-day operational perspective while providing unparalleled overall network capabilities for distance-learning."

Each downlink facility is equipped with a classroom environment including televisions, MPEG1/MPEG2 digital decoder and the IML wireless interactive response system for up to thirty (30) students. All downlink equipment is provided, including all maintenance and upgrades at no cost as a part of the annual SEN subscription. The IML interactive response system not only allows for "keypad" data transmission of real-time student response to the instructor but interactive voice communications as well. This allows the instructor to track the progress of students, classrooms, individual instructor assigned demographic profiles, as well as, speak with students through the use of the wireless hand-held response units.

Michael Knowles, President of IML, Ltd. stated, "IML has designed the system so that the instructor remains in complete control in a highly interactive classroom environment. The system provides instructors with both live response and audio feedback during the lesson with automatic reports after the lesson for administration and tracking purposes. The combination of high quality video and graphics presentations with interactive keypads gives inmates a very effective and engaging learning environment. Instantly displaying

everyone's results back to the class over the satellite keeps them attentive and highly motivated."

Dr. Donald McHenry, Ph.D., Director of Education for the Satellite Education Network has developed educational programs in all five areas of GED preparation, in Life Skills training and in ESL for limited and non-English speaking student/inmates. Additional specialized curriculum areas may be available to address specific site needs. All teachers are licensed and experienced teachers. A complete curriculum guide provides the basis for instruction, with correlation developed to major publications in the education field.

Instructional periods are developed to provide an opportunity for student-teacher interaction during specified lab times, as well as during the real-time lessons. Direct instruction is provided to accommodate different time zones and typical correctional facility schedules. Courses in the GED areas follow a schedule of five days per week, four hours per day, for a total of six weeks, resulting in 120 hours of total instruction, including lab time. ESL and Life Skills follow a similar schedule for one hour per day each, resulting in thirty hours of instruction. The sequence repeats each six-week period, and operates on a twelve-month calendar.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has adopted this distance learning model as its educational model in GED, Life Skills, and ESL training for its correctional facilities statewide. A number of other states are considering the SEN for direct or supplementary educational programming in their jails or prisons. It is proven to be a cost-effective means of providing quality interactive education in correctional facilities.

For more information on the CCT/SEN programming, contact Ron Schaeffer, Vice President Correctional Cable TV/Satellite Education Network at 800-254-4030.

Foundation Telecommunication, Inc. (www.ftionline.com) provides both one-way and two-way satellite Internet connectivity, as well as, in business TV, video conferencing and distance learning networks for one-way and interactive applications. FTI combines experience and expertise to provide complete end-to-end customized satellite distance education and business networks including network design, digital satellite equipment, electronic origination and remote classrooms, space segment and overall network control.

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