

UPDATE- New Texas A&M System IT Contract Saves Money, Increases Efficiencies, and Keeps Jobs

News release courtesy the Texas A&M University System

Chancellor John Sharp today announced a five-year agreement with Cisco to provide IT with support services solutions for The Texas A&M University System that will result in more than \$3.7 million in savings over the length of the contract.

“Our collaboration with Cisco showcases how technological streamlining can enhance our core missions of teaching and research by identifying additional efficiencies within the A&M System,” said Sharp. “We have long been committed to finding greater value in our resources, and this partnership certainly enhances our ability to continue to provide valuable services to the people of Texas.”

The Cisco Smartnet contract will provide maintenance and support for existing hardware and software programs, as well as additional enhanced support services. The plan reduces and controls information technology risk by securing access and protecting data at the network access level and by significantly reducing operational costs associated with traditional contract ordering and administration.

“This contract is an example of how the A&M System can consolidate disparate vendor contracts into a single System-wide offering with enhanced services provided by vendor partners such as Cisco,” said Mark Stone, Chief Information Officer for the Texas A&M System.

Presidio, a strategic collaborative partner with Cisco, served as the fulfillment partner to reconcile the A&M System’s 604 IT contracts into a single contract and to provide the 5-year lease for the system to execute the contract. Cisco currently provides IT services to the University of Texas, University of Houston, Lone Star College System, Baylor University, and many more colleges and universities across Texas and the nation.

“Expanding our partnership with the Texas A&M System is a natural step in improving network security and reducing management costs across the system,” said Renee Patton, U.S. Public Sector Director of Education for Cisco. “As research universities continue to grow in scope and reach, Cisco is proud to help them offer more valuable resources for their faculty, staff, students and local communities.”