



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Advanced Emergency Preparedness Takes Shape for the City of Sweeny with Implementation of Connect-CTY

Implementation of Communication Service Part of City's Efforts in Emergency Preparedness and Communication Planning

SWEENY, TX- November 22, 2006 - The City of Sweeny announced today that it has selected the **Connect-CTY™** service from The NTI Group, Inc. (NTI) to provide city administrators the ability to schedule, send and track personalized voice messages to thousands of residents, businesses, and local officials in just minutes, through a single phone call. Sweeny's mayor and administrators can use the **Connect-CTY** service to periodically and personally communicate with residents about matters that are of timely, pressing information, such as unforeseen events or emergencies.

With the **Connect-CTY** communication service, users can send an unlimited number of messages, and since the system does not require any hardware, it can be used across all departments. This maximizes the city's dollars and ensures that, when a city official needs to use the system, they can do so immediately – without having to track down the employee that holds the key to the system. The city can also keep track of how many and which numbers were reached with a report on the results of outgoing messages that is sent to city administrators immediately upon availability.

"To keep our community safe and informed in the event of an unforeseen incident or emergency, we must have the capability to immediately notify all residents and businesses," said Larry Piper, Mayor of the City of Sweeny. "With the **Connect-CTY** service, we now have an easy to use, reliable tool that will allow us to make certain that community members will be accurately and quickly informed during emergency situations, even if they are not tuned into their radios or TVs."

City administrators can target messages to an unlimited number of groups for everything from mobilizing emergency response teams to notifying necessary department heads and send messages to only the specified groups. Users can also use a map on the **Connect-CTY** system to contact specific geographical locations, sending messages only to specified communities.

"The implementation of the **Connect-CTY** system represents another important step forward for emergency preparedness and communication leadership in the City of Sweeny," said Piper. "We strongly urge everybody to take note of this service, and to register telephones that are not traditional landlines."

Primary residential and business land lines in Sweeny will be automatically included in the system, however, residents must opt-in to have their email address, cell phone and private landline numbers included for



emergency notifications by e-mailing their information to Cindy King at cking@warpspeed1.net or calling 979-548-3321. Residents with call blocking services can make sure to receive the city's time-sensitive calls by adding 979-548-3321 to their approved number list.

"The best way to keep residents safe is through communication, and the **Connect-CTY** service makes it easy," said Robin D. Richards, Chairman and CEO of NTI. "With the **Connect-CTY** service, administrators have a powerful tool for mass communication without having to purchase new computers, software and telephone lines."

The City of Sweeny conducted its first test-call on Wednesday, November 22nd in order to ensure all residents who would like to be included in the system are given a chance to correct their phone numbers. If residents do not receive the call, they should contact the city at 979-548-3321 or email cking@warpspeed1.net to have their contact information updated.

For more information on the **Connect-CTY** system, please go to <http://www.ntigroup.com>

** NTI does not sell, lease, share, or rent personally identifiable information (names, addresses, phone numbers, etc.) to any companies or persons outside of NTI or NTI service providers.*

About The NTI Group

The NTI Group, Inc. (NTI), a Delaware corporation, is a privately held company that provides award winning communication systems designed specifically for local, regional, state, and Federal government entities. The **Connect** family of services enables rapid dissemination of critical information via voice and text devices using its premier mass notification engine designed to allow users to quickly and easily record and send time-based notifications to thousands of people in minutes using just a telephone. NTI makes and distributes the **Connect-ED**[®], **Connect-CTY**[™], **Connect-GOV**[™], and **Connect-MIL**[™] systems, allowing users to target specific groups and/or geographic regions within their database(s) and engage recipients in two-way communication by asking them to respond to questions via their telephone keypads.