

HazCollect – The All Hazards Emergency Message Collection System – Program Development Update - October 2007

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What is New in HazCollect?

- HazCollect registration to begin Winter 2008. See website near bottom for latest info.
- Introductory briefings on the DHS's Disaster Management eGov Initiative *Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Demonstration: HazCollect* and NWS's *HazCollect: Speeding Emergency Messages to the Public* available at <http://weather.gov/os/hazcollect/>.

What is HazCollect?

- A nationwide capability to streamline the current manual creation, authentication, and collection of all types of non-weather emergency messages in a quick and secure manner for subsequent alert, warning and notification purposes.

How will HazCollect help emergency managers?

- HazCollect allows pre-approved and authenticated authorized officials at the Federal, state, and local levels to submit messages for broadcast over NWS systems for the purpose of warning or informing the public. This includes NWS, EMWIN, NOAAPORT, and NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) for relay to the Emergency Alert System (EAS).

What will be the basic steps to use HazCollect?

- HazCollect will use some functionalities of DHS's Disaster Management Interoperability Service (DMIS), such as automated user authentication.
- To originate Non-Weather Emergency Messages (NWEM), emergency managers will use the DMIS desktop client or other government or commercial CAP-enabled incident management software application interfaced with the Disaster Management Open Platform for Emergency networks (DM-OPEN) to write and post (send) NWEM text messages.
- DMIS will then relay the NWEM to the HazCollect server for message authorization and dissemination through DMIS and the NWS dissemination infrastructure, NWR, and EAS.

See HazCollect Overview diagram on reverse.

What is the development and rollout schedule?

- ✓ June 2005 – Development Test & Evaluation I of HazCollect system
- ✓ August 2005 – March 2006 – Development Test & Evaluation II of HazCollect system
- ✓ June-July 2006 – Operational Acceptance Test (OAT) of HazCollect system
- ✓ November 2006 – Follow-on OAT of HazCollect to test fixes for discovered problems
- By Spring 2008 – National Availability of HazCollect system capability through DMIS

What were the major development taskings in the HazCollect program?

- ✓ Battelle Institute
 - Interface between DHS's DMIS and NWS's communication infrastructure
 - Security requirements for user authentication and authorization
 - Program management, operations and maintenance support
- ✓ NOAA's Global Systems Division
 - Ensure automated dissemination of NWEMs through the Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS) and the existing NWS communications infrastructure.
- ✓ Northrup Grumman Information Technology
 - Integration of NWS AWIPS Network Control Facility system with HazCollect

Other HazCollect program notes:

- National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) and International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) members and others have helped since 2003 to refine HazCollect Concept of Operations and requirements.
- NWS "HazCollect" breakout session at Phoenix IAEM Conference in November 2005 included a demonstration of DMIS and HazCollect use of Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) messages.
- NWS and DHS exhibited and presented at IAEM in November 2006.

Websites:

NWS HazCollect

<http://weather.gov/os/hazcollect/>

DHS Disaster Management Interoperability Services

<http://www.dmi-services.org/>

DM-OPEN Special Interest Group

<http://www.emforum.org/OPEN/>

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HazCollect Overview

Emergency Message Flow

