

**HazCollect Follow-On Operational Test & Evaluation (FOTE)
Test Review Group Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2008**

Attendees:

WFO Pittsburgh, PA: Rich Kane, Joe Palko, Robert Coblenz
Central Region: Gregory Noonan
WFO Paducah, KY: Rick Shanklin, Deanna Lindstrom
WFO San Francisco: Wayne Bailey
Alaska Region: Jeffrey Osiensky
WFO Anchorage, AK: Sam Albanese

CIO14: Odon Dario
OPS24: Jerald Dinges, Jae Lee, Bert Viloría
OST11: Steve Pritchett
OST33: Jeremiah Dewey

Florida EM: John Fleming
Daviness County, KY EM: Walter Atherton
DHS/FEMA: Colleen Apte, Rick Hauschildt

On Wednesday September 17, 2008, the National Weather Service Test & Evaluation Branch (OPS24) hosted the HazCollect Follow-on Operational Test & Evaluation (FOTE) Test Review Group Meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to present the status of the FOTE testing at WFO Paducah, KY (PAH). During the meeting, the following items were discussed:

1. Jae Lee proceeded to discuss the start of the FOTE at WFO PAH and reported the following activities. On September 16, 2008, Art Kraus (Office of Climate, Water, and Weather Services) has issued a national Public Information Statement (PNS) about the FOTE. Additionally, prior to the start of the FOTE, Rick Shanklin (WFO PAH WCM) issued a local PNS to inform the community of the FOTE.

OPS24 hosted the kickoff meeting at WFO PAH which started at 10:30am CDT Wednesday Sept 17, 2008. At the kickoff meeting, OPS24 listed the responsibilities of the FOTE test team, WFO PAH test site personnel, and the local emergency manager. The FOTE is being coordinated by the FOTE test team. WFO PAH personnel are expected to monitor scheduled test activities, including AWIPS notification, CRS scheduling and subsequent transmission. The local emergency manager will, barring any scheduling or time constraints, generate and send his daily test ADR messages (weekdays) as documented in the FOTE Plan.

After the kickoff meeting, Bert Viloría successfully generated and posted (via DMIS client) the first test ADR message with NWRSAME tones. This test message was broadcasted to Daviness County, KY through WFO PAH. NWS headquarters (NWSHQ) test support personnel were on hand at the Telecommunications Gateway (TG) and at the

Network Control Facility (NCF) to verify message transmission. The AWIPS red banner notification, Console Replacement System (CRS) scheduling, and subsequent broadcast by NOAA weather radio were verified by WFO PAH personnel. Additionally, this test ADR message was tracked and verified by the Daviess County emergency management personnel. OPS24 confirmed this message was also received by EMWIN and NWWS.

The second planned test message involved the generation and transmission of the daily test ADR message by Walt Atherton (Daviess County Emergency Manager). Walter was able to successfully generate and post his daily ADR message using DMIS client software on his computer. Both WFO PAH personnel and the Daviess County emergency management staff were able to verify Walt's daily test ADR message. Also, this message was received by EMWIN and NWWS.

2. After the FOTE test activities for the day were presented, the future test activities planned for WFO PAH were discussed including state message and mode testing. Per recommendations from WFO PAH, the local public notification message (PNS) sample will be provided to the next planned FOTE site for their local dissemination no later than the Thursday before their scheduled FOTE start week. This will allow the next FOTE site to update the PNS sample and disseminate them during the weekend prior to the start of the FOTE. An action item was taken by OPS24 to send this PNS sample to the next FOTE site no later than Thursday before the FOTE start week.
3. OPS24 took an action to contact and meet with the local EM (David Gagetta) from Pittsburgh, PA in preparation for the FOTE testing at WFO Pittsburgh, PA (PBZ). WFO PBZ is the next FOTE site to start the FOTE on September 29, 2008. OPS24 will discuss the DMIS client with Dave Gagetta and how it will be used with HazCollect. Rich Kane (WFO PAH WCM) agreed to set up a meeting.
4. OPS24 took an action to contact Gregory Noonan to coordinate awareness and prepare for the upcoming state message test planned for the state of Kentucky on September 24, 2008. The state message test will involve sending a test ADR state message for Kentucky which will be sent to all WFOs in Kentucky and surrounding offices.
5. The FOTE test team, WFO PAH, and Walt Atherton agreed to resume testing on September 18, 2008 at noon EDT for daily test message transmission and HazCollect server mode testing.
6. The next TRG meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2008 at 2pm EDT. OPS24 is planning to set up a GoToMeeting to demonstrate a test message generation using DMIS client software.