

**HazCollect Follow-On Operational Test & Evaluation (FOTE)  
Test Review Group Meeting Minutes  
September 24, 2008**

**Attendees:**

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WFO Pittsburgh, PA: Joseph Palko  
Central Region: Gregory Noonan  
WFO Paducah, KY: Rick Shanklin, Deanna Lindstrom  
WFO San Francisco: David Reynolds

CIO14: Odon Dario  
OPS24: Jerald Dinges, Jae Lee, Bert Vioria  
OS51: Arthur Kraus  
OST11: Steve Pritchett  
OST33: Jeremiah Dewey

Florida EM: John Fleming  
Daviess County, KY EM: Walter Atherton  
Anchorage AK EM: Vince McCoy  
Hawaii EM: Tom Simon  
DHS/FEMA: Rick Hauschildt

UACS: Sean Payne, Valencia Hicks

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On Wednesday September 24, 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 status of the FOTE testing with WFO PAH. There were a total of six successful daily test ADR messages generated by Walt Atherton (Daviess County, KY EM). There is a total of one test ADR message, sent by FOTE test team, which was successfully routed and broadcasted for Paducah, KY. There are also a total of seven test ADR messages that were properly NOT disseminated and only stored at the HazCollect server. Three of these test messages were successfully generated using the Verizon Internet wireless air cards to verify successful DMIS login and subsequent messages being sent to the HazCollect server. Previous testing using these Internet air cards encountered connection issues.
2. On Wednesday Sept 24, at 1:45pm EDT, the state message test was successfully performed by the FOTE test team for the state of Kentucky. The surrounding field offices were online to monitor and report dissemination. Preliminary responses from the field offices have been positive. Each of the attending field offices reported AWIPS red banners and subsequent scheduling in CRS and broadcast via NOAA weather radio.
3. Bert Vioria added that for future STATE message tests, the designated listening areas will only cover the state where the FOTE is being started for the week. This means that

for the next STATE message test, the test STATE message will only be disseminated to the state of Pennsylvania (and other serviced neighboring counties). **The actual NATIONAL message test (for all counties) is tentatively scheduled for November 18, 2008.** Regions focal points have been requested to start coordinating with forecast offices and the media for the National test.

4. Bert Vilorio proceeded to discuss the current test trouble reports (TTR) from the previous week of testing. There were two reported problems:
  - a. TTR #55: HazCollect Server mode changes are not saved in all servers.
  - b. TTR #56: HazCollect message queue data are not available for display in all servers.

The TRG decided to resolve the disposition of the TTR **Impact and Priority** values with OST and UACS at a later scheduled time. This meeting has been scheduled for 12:30pm, September 25, 2008.

5. Bert Vilorio discussed the upcoming test events that will be taking place next week for the start of the FOTE at WFO Pittsburgh, PA on Monday September 29, 2008. In addition to the test ADR message test for WFO Pittsburgh, PA and the daily test ADR messages by the local emergency manager, the FOTE test team will be planning to conduct a subset of the failover tests next week.
6. Bert Vilorio proceeded to provide a brief demonstration of the DMIS client software (Version 2.3.3) as it relates only to HazCollect. The following screens were displayed and discussed per usage and default values:
  - a. Login screen including selecting proper COG
  - b. Alerts List including filtering expired messages
  - c. New NWEM screen, Alert Detail, Areas including default test values
  - d. Post confirmation

The default test values for the NWEM screen, including the Alert Detail window are also included in **Attachment E** of the FOTE Plan. The FOTE Plan is available for viewing online at: [http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ops2/ops24/documents/hazcollect\\_docs.htm](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ops2/ops24/documents/hazcollect_docs.htm)

The DMIS Operator's Guide is also available on the same address and by clicking on the '*Miscellaneous Documents*' pull-down menu and selecting '**DMIS Operator's Guide v2.3.3 (PDF)**'.

7. Walter Atherton reported inconsistent behavior of his weather radio and EAS printing during dissemination of his daily ADR and with the just recent Kentucky state message. Walt explained that for his daily test message (ADRPAH), the weather radio (First Alert WX-167) displayed a red alert light and his EAS receiver (TFT EAS930A) printed the proper message notification. When the state message for Kentucky (ADRKY) was disseminated, the weather radio displayed a yellow light, no audible alarms, and his EAS receiver did not perform the message printing. FOTE test team will contact the CRS help desk and Wayne Hart (Dissemination Systems Branch) for their support in analysis of the problem. The TRG recommended for Walt to continue monitoring his radios and receivers during his daily messages and report further inconsistencies.