

**HazCollect Follow-On Operational Test & Evaluation (FOTE)  
Test Review Group Meeting Minutes  
October 29, 2008**

**Attendees:**

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WFO Pittsburgh, PA:	Joseph Palko, Robert Coblentz
PBZ EM:	John Nicklin
Southern Region:	Mike Mach, Janice Bunting
WFO Tallahassee, FL:	Robert Goree, Tony Freeman
FL State Emergency Mgrs:	Amy Godsey, Bill Stoye
Central Region:	Gregory Noonan
WFO Paducah, KY:	Deanna Lindstrom
Paducah EM:	Walter Atherton
Western Region:	Jeffrey Lorens
WFO Anchorage, AK:	Sam Albanese
Anchorage EM:	Vince McCoy
Hawaii EM:	Tom Simon
DHS/FEMA:	Rick Hauschildt
Hormann America:	Tomer Petel
OPS24:	Jerald Dinges, Jae Lee, Bert Vioria
OST11:	Joel Williams
OST31:	Tim Hopkins
OST33:	Jeremiah Dewey

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On Wednesday October 29, 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. During the meeting, the following items were discussed:

1. Walt Atherton (Daviness County, KY EM), John Nicklin (Mercer County, PA EM), and Tom Simon (Hawaii EM) continue to successfully generate their daily test ADR messages using the DMIS client.
2. **Walt Atherton was able to successfully generate two actual 911 Telephone Outage Emergency (TOE) messages using the DMIS client.** These messages were verified to be broadcasted by the WFO Paducah KY (PAH) office, and the NWWS files were confirmed via email to FOTE test team. Walt added that there his NCIC system was not activated and that the message did not broadcast the SAME tones. Deanna Lindstrom confirmed that the SAME tones were NOT broadcasted for the TOE message because TOE message types were not configured to broadcast SAME tones at their WFO PAH

CRS database. Bert Vioria reminded Deanna that TOE message types should have broadcasted the SAME tones as instructed by the latest CRS Maintenance Note 63 for all WFOs. However, Bert reminded everyone that local tone policy for PAH could be different from the national policy and local policies take precedence. OPS24 took an Action Item to send the website links to WFO PAH for the latest CRS Maintenance Note 63 documents, including miscellaneous HazCollect documentation.

Walter also noted that in addition to generating the actual TOE messages and posting them to HazCollect, he posted one of his messages to the COG 1291: Kentucky Division of Emergency Management. Rick Hauschildt has successfully verified that this additional post to the other COG has been confirmed. The message was listed in the list of expired alerts when Rick logged into COG 1291.

Upon further inspection of Walter's messages, including all other daily test messages from the other EMs from this week (week of October 26<sup>th</sup>), the FOTE test team noted that there was a discrepancy with the time zone values. The EM test daily messages are already using the "Standard Time" in the header local time even though the Daylight to Standard time switch does not occur until November 2, 2008, resulting in local time value that is one hour less than expected ahead and an incorrect time zone value. The FOTE test team will generate a new Test Trouble Report for this discrepancy.

3. The FOTE started at WFO Anchorage, AK (AFC) on Tuesday, October 28, 2008 at 10am AKDT/ 4:00pm EDT. The FOTE started with a kick off meeting which was attended by Vince McCoy (Anchorage Emergency Manager), Jeffrey Osiensky (Alaska Regional Headquarters), and Sam Albanese (WFO AFC WCM). The FOTE test team was able to successfully generate and post one test ADR message (with SAME tones) using the DMIS client to the Anchorage area. The message was broadcasted and validated at the field office and via email NWS notifications to the FOTE test team.
4. Due to previous discussions with his local emergency services, Sam Albanese requested that there will no SAME tones set for the ADR message type (ADRAFC) used by the emergency manager for the duration of the FOTE, and for the upcoming Alaska state message test (ADRAK) scheduled for Thursday Oct 30, 2008. However, he was willing to temporarily put back the SAME tones for the National Message Test currently scheduled for November 18<sup>th</sup> and then disable the SAME tones for the ADR type again until the end of the FOTE. The FOTE test team agreed to Sam's requests.
5. The FOTE test team announced that future test activities will be the continuation of the FOTE failover testing by next week (week of November 3<sup>rd</sup>).
6. Tomer Petel (Hormann America) announced to the TRG that he has been successful with the transition of the API development from the previous CAP API to the NWEM API. He has worked with both Neil Bourgeois and Gary Hamm regarding the transition and was successful in his preliminary testing with the INTEROPDEV DMIS server. He has requested for another OPEN API demonstration using the DMIS INTEROP production server and the actual HazCollect server. OPS24 responded that they will need to coordinate with Art Botterell and the field offices at Monterey, CA and Sacramento, CA.

7. The list of TTRs was discussed. Two TTRs have been closed:
  - TTR #57:** Message was not sent to the expected HazCollect rack during ingest failover.
  - TTR #59:** POST failover or a test message using time zone “HST”

Two previous “undetermined” TTRs have been assigned by the TRG to the following Priority and Impact designations:

- TTR #58:** CAPE Formatter handling of expired NWEM messages and generation of new and incorrect creation and expiration times. (Priority 3, Impact 3).
- TTR #60:** CAP v1.1 compliance issues (Priority 3, Impact 3).

8. Sam Albanese wanted to discuss the use of the Administrative Message (ADR) type in HazCollect as the Update/Cancel mechanism. According to Sam, the ADR is also currently used as the update for the Tsunami warnings in Alaska. OPS24 took an action to coordinate a meeting with Sam and Herb White/Art Kraus to resolve ADR usage issues.
9. Tom Simon (Hawaii EM) inquired whether NWS is currently processing CAP messages directly as input. Tim Hopkins responded that AWIPS currently does not take CAP messages as input. Tom then proceeded to state that a known NWS website:

<http://www.weather.gov/alerts/#CAP>

is currently displaying messages in CAP format. Tim Hopkins responded that this website information could have pre or post-formatted the CAP data for display on the website mentioned.

10. The FOTE is scheduled to start at WFO Tallahassee, FL on Tuesday November 4, 2008.