

**FOC HazCollect Operational Test & Evaluation (OT&E)
Test Review Group Meeting Minutes
Mar 25, 2010**

Attendees:

WFO Pittsburgh, PA: Rich Kane, Joe Palko
Central Region: Gregory Noonan
WFO Paducah KY: Deanna Lindstrom
Western Region: Craig Schmidt
WFO Anchorage AK: Sam Albanese
OPS24: Jae Lee, Bert Vioria
OPS32: Susan Murphy
OPS33: Walter Mussante
OPS34: Odon Dario
OS51: Herb White, Art Kraus
OS6: Michael Dion
OST11: Steve Pritchett
OST33: Jeremiah Dewey, Olga Brown-Leigh

Daviess County, KY EM: Walter Atherton
JD Biggs & Associates: Jim Biggs
Prism: Craig Donahue, Jim Buchman, Ashok Chitela

On Thursday March 25, 2010, the National Weather Service Test & Evaluation Branch (OPS24) hosted the Test Review Group (TRG) meeting for the Full Operating Capability (FOC) HazCollect Operational Test & Evaluation (OT&E).

The purpose of the meeting was to go over the status of the FOC HazCollect and to adjudicate any problems that were found during the previous week.

I. Test Activities and Results

1. On Monday March 22, the OT&E test team performed the HazCollect All-Marine Zone test for all 47 affected weather forecast offices (WFO). There were 21 successful confirmations from the field offices, with three sites reporting AWIPS/CRS setup problems that were all addressed by the Software Branch (OPS23), and 23 pending confirmations from the rest of the WFOs. For the issues reported, TTR #73 was generated to track all-marine zones issues, including pending confirmations.

During the test, the DMIS client reported an error when the first test ADR message was posted. After being able to repeat the error via a second message, the OT&E test team decided to send a test ADR for all marine zones just in WFO Miami FL area and then another subsequent test ADR for the rest of the country. In both instances, there were no DMIS client errors reported. A new TTR #76 was generated to track the client issue. Prism (contractor) has initially attributed the problem to commas in zone descriptions and has updated the production database and removed the commas. The OT&E test team

subsequently retested the marine zones and successfully verified (in Active/Test mode) all 47 WMO messages in the HazCollect server (no dissemination as expected).

2. On Tuesday, March 23, the OT&E test team successfully tested and verified the HazCollect failover processing. After previously notifying all HazCollect users about system downtime due to mode changes, OPS24 was able to verify failover handling between the hazC1 and the hazC2 servers at Silver Spring, MD and with the hazC1 backup server at Mt Weather, VA.

On the same day, OPS24 confirmed the upload processing in the HazCollect COG admin website by successfully uploading the actual COG data from WI Brown County EM and the IN Spencer County EMA. During the upload, problems in upload file field lengths were reported but a workaround has been identified by limiting the field values to 206 characters. Prism acknowledged the problem as a Sybase database error and will provide a fix after the FOC deployment. A new TTR #74 has been generated to track the COG upload field length issue.

II. Test Trouble Reports (TTRs)

1. **TTR #69** (marine zones missing/inaccurate in the HazCollect database) – TRG decided to close this TTR.
2. **TTR #71** (National Message Test results) – all reported problems from sites have been addressed by OPS23 and OCWWS, so the TRG decided to close this TTR.
3. **TTR #72** (DMIS client v2.3.3. time zone problem) – a fix has been provided by DHS/FEMA on their website as a workaround, so the TRG decided to close this TTR.
4. **TTR #73** (All-Marine Zone Test Results) – there are still pending test confirmations including issues from the DMIS client error so the TRG decided to update the Impact to 4 (Watch Item) and keep the Priority to 2 (Include in the next build before initial deployment). This TTR is still OPEN.
5. **TTR #74** (COG upload issue) – the TRG decided to set the Impact to 3 (less critical) and the Priority to 3 (Include in the next build after deployment) as a viable workaround has been already identified and accepted. This TTR is still OPEN.
6. **TTR #75** (Formal process to update HazCollect database is not established) – OCWWS responded that the process is being worked on but will not be accomplished within the OT&E. The TRG decided to set the Impact to 3 (less critical) and the Priority to 2 (Include in the next build before initial deployment). This TTR is still OPEN.
7. **TTR #76** (Cannot create one NWEM message for all marine zones) – in conjunction with TTR #73, the DMIS reported an error while sending all marine zones. Even after the comma fix provided by Prism and subsequent OPS24 Active/Test verification at the server, the TRG decided to set the Impact to 4 (Watch Item) and the Priority to 2 (Include in the next build before initial deployment). This TTR is still OPEN.

III. Miscellaneous discussion

1. Bert Vilorio discussed the recent testing at WFO Paducah (PAH) and their plans to setup the automatic pass through for NWEM messages to mitigate the non-broadcast of the test ADR messages from Walter Atherton. Deanna Lindstrom explained that the test ADR messages were probably queued at the pending directory and then expired before they

were sent to CRS. Herb White advised PAH regarding specific NWEM products being set for automatic pass through as this capability is now available in NWRWaves.

The HazCollect OT&E ends March 26, 2010. The HazCollect OT&E Wrap-Up meeting is scheduled for Thursday April 1, 2010 at 2:00pm EDT.