

**FOC HazCollect Operational Test & Evaluation (OT&E)
Test Review Group Meeting Minutes
Mar 4, 2010**

Attendees:

Eastern Region: John Koch
WFO Pittsburgh, PA: Joe Palko
Central Region: Gregory Noonan
Western Region: Craig Schmidt
WFO San Francisco, CA: Larry Smith
WFO Sacramento, CA: Kathy Hoxsie

OPS24: Jae Lee, Bert Vioria
OPS34: Odon Dario
OS51: Art Kraus
OST11: Steve Pritchett
OST33: Olga-Brown Leigh

Daviess County, KY EM: Walter Atherton
Hawaii EM: Tom Simon
DHS/DMIS: Rick Hauschildt, Neil Bourgeois
Alerting Solutions: Tomer Petel
Prism: Jim Buchman

On Thursday March 4, 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 March 1, 2010, WFO Paducah KY (PAH) and their local emergency manager (EM) successfully performed additional test administrative (ADR) non-weather emergency (NWEM) message dissemination testing for multiple concurrent users at the same time and at a time variance of 2 minutes. The test ADR messages were successfully verified at the WFO PAH AWIPS pending directory and broadcasted to weather radio.
2. On March 1, 2010, WFO Anchorage AK (AFC) and their EM successfully generated their test ADR NWEM and performed their dissemination test. The test ADR message was verified at WFO AFC and disseminated to their Console Replacement System (CRS) and subsequently broadcasted to weather radio.
3. On March 2, 2010, the OT&E test team notified all authorized HazCollect users and proceeded to successfully perform internal testing including mode changes, and system administration database functionality. Subsequently, after the test, the OT&E test team

reactivated the HazCollect mode to active status and re-notified all authorized HazCollect users regarding the HazCollect active mode restoration.

4. On March 2, 2010, the OT&E test team started the OT&E with WFO San Francisco/Monterey CA (MTR) and WFO Sacramento CA (STO) and the local EM from Contra Costa County (Katherine Hern). The EM was able to successfully generate a CAP message using the Alerting Solutions CapConHC which is DMIS OPEN-API complaint 3rd party incident reporting software. The message was successfully confirmed receipt at the HazCollect server and was also confirmed at both WFO received experienced DMIS client setup issues, so a retest has been scheduled for Monday March 1, 2010 with WFO AFC and the local EM.

II. Test Trouble Reports (TTRs)

1. TTR #69 - Marine zones missing/inaccurate in the HazCollect database (**Impact 2** – malfunction of required functionality, reasonable workaround, **Priority 1** – need immediate fix).

Art Kraus (OS51) found the problem while scanning the list of marine zones provided by Prism (contractor) that are currently in the HazCollect database. Art found that:

- Over current 70 marine zones are not in the HazCollect database.
- Over a dozen marine zone numbers in the database now have different coverage areas (and names).
- Several marine zones in the database are no longer being used.

Steve Pritchett (Project Manager) has been informed of the problem and he has instructed Prism to update the database per Art Kraus's findings. As soon as the marine zones have been updated, Steve Pritchett plans to re-run tests to verify that all marine zones messages are properly confirmed and generated.

III. Miscellaneous discussion

1. Due to the incomplete/inaccurate marine zones in the HazCollect database, the TRG decided that only land areas will be used during the National Message Test scheduled for Tuesday March 9, 2010. There will be no marine zones for the national message test. OPS24 added that Art Kraus has already sent out another national PNS message to inform that only land areas will be used for the national message test. OPS24 also informed that they have already sent out the monitor/reporting instructions document to the regional focal points so it can be disseminated to their respective field offices. A teleconference has also been planned and will be hosted by OPS24 during the national test for problems found not specifically addressed in the monitor document.
2. OPS24 informed Art Kraus about the still unresolved issue with the Guam/Marianas Islands with regards to the National message and the incorrect UGC code generated during the previous national message test (Reference TTR #66). Art will look into the issue and possibly contact Bill Ward (Pacific Region regional POC) for any new developments/guidance.

3. Craig Schmidt (Western Region point of contact) clarified Art Kraus's statement regarding the continual nature of marine zone updates from the regions and the field. Craig added that there is a stringent process that still needs to be followed and these data are forwarded to proper channels and/or to data management group before they are operational.
4. Tomer Petel (Alerting Solutions) discussed the problems with including zip codes in the CAP message and sending them over to HazCollect. Currently, the DMIS server does not filter out the zip codes and this message will arrive at HazCollect, create a CAP message but will fail and not create the subsequent WMO message. Steve Pritchett and Neil Bourgeois (DMIS/DHS) explained that the current DM OPEN system does not filter out the zip codes and have no plans to fix or update the current software. Neil added that this data handling will be planned for the upcoming DM OPEN Version 2.0 and emphasized that the API will also change and the current version will no longer be supported after June 2010. Steve reiterated that the current FOC HazCollect will only accept FIPS codes in its NWEM messages.

IV. Action Items

1. Art Kraus will inquire from Bill Ward regarding any new developments/guidance regarding the Guam/Marianas Islands UGC issue from previous national message tests.
2. Art Kraus will provide Prism with a list of erroneous and/or missing marine zones so Prism can incorporate the updated data into the current HazCollect database.