

HAZUS HOT ZONE

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HUG Leadership and Topic Specific Calls

HUG Leadership Calls (1:30-2:30 PM Eastern Time) and Topic Specific Calls (3:00-4:00 PM Eastern Time) are scheduled for the following dates in 2011:

- June 21
- July 26
- August 16
- September 20
- October 25
- November 15
- December 13

To register for these calls, please contact Jamie Caplan at Jamie@jamiecaplan.com.



Launch of Hazus-MH 2.0

We are pleased to announce that Hazus-MH 2.0 will soon be available. The 2.0 version is a major release for the Hazus program as indicated by the move to the 2.0 version number. This release contains the first new disaster methodology since the introduction of the flood and hurricane modules in 2004. This new coastal surge capability will allow users to analyze coastal storms with greater accuracy than ever before. In previous versions of Hazus, users would analyze the wind and flood components of a coastal storm separately, which would ultimately lead to losses that were analyzed twice. By integrating the coastal storm modeling capability, Hazus no longer analyzes damaged geographies twice. In addition, 2.0 is the first version to be compatible with Esri's ArcGIS version 10. Lastly, the underlying development environment of Hazus has been modernized which places the software on a road map for even greater enhancements in the future. The 2.0 release includes many additional improvements to the usability and functionality of the software, including:

- The CDMS tool has been integrated with Hazus. CDMS will no longer be handled as a distinct product requiring users to obtain and install it separately. It will be considered a module of Hazus-MH.
- The Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) Arc GIS extension is no longer required.
- User defined or essential facilities now imports the latitude/longitude with full precision (no truncation).
- Riverine velocity has been added to the flood module as a "what-if" in both hazard and analysis.
- Flood shelter analysis has been optimized to run faster for large regions.

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Hazus User Receives Award

Miguel Pavon, Information Center Director for Texas/Mexico Borderlands was awarded the Outstanding Achievement in Mitigation Award at the 2011 National Hurricane Conference. In 2007, Mr. Pavon developed a spreadsheet using Hazus outputs that could calculate the amount of commodities that could be distributed at Points of Distribution (POD). The simple spreadsheet design features input fields at the top of the screen, and fields for commodity needs below. The fields become populated as new information is entered. The spreadsheet can be updated rapidly as new predictions and models are generated. The commodities and debris spreadsheet can be used for mitigation, response, and recovery. Read the entire story at www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/hazus/hz_hugsuccess.shtm.

Haiti 2010 Earthquake Success Story

Using the GIS-based methodology developed in 2006, a Hazus Haiti study region was developed in the immediate weeks following the devastating January 12, 2010 earthquake. Read about their success in the "Using Hazus to Assess Alternative Futures and Earthquake Scenarios for Haiti." Visit fema.gov for all of the Hazus success stories.

- The 200-year return period has been removed and a 25-year return period has been added to the suite of return periods in the flood module.
- A Hazus Packaged Region (HPR) extract utility has been added that allows users to extract specific tables and data from exported Hazus study regions.
- The terrain roughness and tree coverage data sets have been updated in the hurricane module to use the latest available data from the Multi-Resolution Land-Use Consortium (MRLC) at both the census block and census tract levels.
- Updates to the historical storms data for the Northeast U.S. region have been made to the hurricane module.

HAZUS Trained Professionals and Practitioners

The Hazus Trained Professionals and Practitioner training initiative has taken off and the curriculum courses being offered are continuously reaching capacity. Between September 2010 and April 2011, 45 individuals have joined the ranks of the Trained Professionals and Practitioners. Since its inception in 2008, the program has grown each year and continues to increase Hazus awareness and the technical abilities of Hazus users.

HAZUS Professionals

Michelle P. Brock - Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Emergency Management, NC

Todd Warren Brown - Madison County Emergency Management, IA

Yuko Caras - King County GIS Center, WA

Robert S. Coates, Jr. - Virginia Department of Emergency Management, VA

Eric C. Coughlin - Atkins, NC

Caroline Cunningham - Atkins, NC

Charles C. Eissler - Texas Geographic Society, TX

Dominique Evans-Bye - Clark Magnet High School, CA

Thomas P. Fisher, Muskingum - Watershed Conservancy District, OH

Christopher J. Gabris - URS Corporation, MD

Nicholas E. Graf - Kansas Adjutant General's Department, KS

David J. Green - Custer County Planning Department, SD

Craig J. Hanrahan - Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, TN

Elizabeth Shelby Hudson - AMEC Earth and Environmental, CO

Edward C. Kemp - City of Starkville, MS

John Kilcullen - Mobile County Emergency Management Agency, AL

Vincent A. Legendre - URS Corporation, MD

Gwynne Lindsey - City of Colleyville, TX

Miguel A. Lopez - Municipality of Ponce, PR

Edward D. Loranger - AMEC Earth and Environmental, CO

Mary L. Meade - FEMA Region 4, FL

Philip A. McCormick - City of Riverside Office of Emergency Services, CA

Jennifer R. McGee - AMEC Earth and Environmental, TN

Brad A. McVay - Illinois State Water Survey, IL

Caleb J. Midgley - Defense Threat Reduction Agency, NM

Kalah N. Mueller - Pasco County Emergency Management, FL

Bruce K. Pantani - Yale New Haven Health System, CT

Matthew H. Riggs - The Polis Center, IN

Rachel R. Rodriguez - Yurok Tribe, CA

Sandra S. Russaw - Columbus Consolidated Government, GA

Michael D. Ruzowski - Okaloosa County, FL

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Mohiuddin Shaik - Michael Baker Jr., Inc. WV

Brian Shumon - FEMA Region 2, NY

Nathan G. Smith - FEMA, Washington, DC

Candace L. Snipes - Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency, AL

Shelly C. Tilly - Washington Military Department, WA

Jayne M. Uerling - Nooksack Indian Tribe, WA

Philip A. Waring - AMEC Earth and Environmental, KS

Alicia D. Williams - AMEC Earth and Environmental, TN

Michael J. Zanotti - AMEC Earth and Environmental, AL

HAZUS Practitioners

Charles C. Eissler - Texas Geographic Society, TX

Dominique Evans-Bye - Clark Magnet High School, CA

Nathan G. Smith - FEMA, Washington, DC

Shelly C. Tilly - Washington Military Department, WA

Hazus User Group Update

The Hazus Higher Education Resources Consortium (HERC) continues to develop and progress. The Hazus User Group (HUG) Topic Specific Call on April 26, 2011 featured a discussion on the HERC where it became clear that the HERC is not only about people using or teaching Hazus, but about research being conducted that can benefit those utilizing Hazus in the academic field. The HERC website www.usehazus.com/herc, will become a space where Hazus users can share information. Those wishing to utilize the Hazus Speakers' Bureau will find more information on the website soon.

In other HUG news, the South Carolina HUG held a conference call on April 28, 2011 that featured ZAI staff Adam Campbell and David Adler highlighting features in the upcoming release of Hazus 2.0. The Maryland HUG held a call on April 7, 2011 that featured Christina Cummings discussing her work as a graduate student with the University of North Dakota.

She used the Hazus Flood Module to study the growth of Devils Lake. You will be able to read more about her study in an upcoming Hazus Success Story. Hazus User Groups frequently host conference calls with guest speakers and all Hazus

users are welcome to attend. For a schedule of events, please visit www.usehazus.com.

FEMA Region IV is collaborating with the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security to form a Georgia HUG. Those interested in participating in the GAHUG are encouraged to contact Samuel.wilkins@dhs.gov.

The Canadian HUG continues to meet on a monthly basis via conference call. Anyone interested in participating in these calls, should visit the Canadian HUG webpage for more information, www.usehazus.com/cahug.

Do you participate in social media? The Hazus Outreach Team is working with FEMA External Affairs to post Hazus announcements on the FEMA Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/FEMA> and Twitter threads at <http://twitter.com/#!/fema>.

Upcoming Hazus Conferences or Hazus Presentations include:

- May 30, Idaho HUG Call
- June 1, Canada HUG Call
- June 2, 2011 Northeast HUG Call
- June 8, 2011 Rocky Mountain HUG Call
- June 15, Canada HUG Call
- July 13, North Carolina HUG Call

For more information on any of these calls or meetings please contact

Jamie@jamiicaplan.com.

Hazus Higher Education Resources Consortium Calls

- July 26, 2011, 4:30-5:30 PM Eastern Time
- September 20, 2011, 4:30-5:30 PM Eastern Time
- November 15, 2011, 4:30-5:30 PM Eastern Time

To register for these calls, please contact Jamie Caplan at Jamie@jamiicaplan.com.

Hazus Program Opportunities

There are many opportunities for Hazus users to get involved with the Hazus Program. Everyone should consider:

- **Joining a Hazus User Group.** There is one in your area!
- **Participating in National Conference Calls.** Calls are scheduled monthly.
- **Writing a Technical Compendium Article.** Share your Hazus technical expertise.
- **Giving a Presentation.** Present your work on a national topic specific call or a regional HUG call.
- **Documenting Your Success.** Success stories are a wonderful way to display your work with Hazus.

Contact margaret.walton@atkinsglobal.com regarding these opportunities.



Annual Conference

Call for Papers

On behalf of the 5th Annual Hazus Conference, FEMA welcomes high quality papers and panel proposals in all areas of identifying, assessing, communicating, planning, and mitigating risk. The focus of this year's conference is broad; therefore all papers dealing with risk-based mitigation, hazard awareness, improved communication and enhanced decision making capabilities are especially welcome. Submissions from a wide interdisciplinary spectrum are also encouraged, including but not limited to federal, state and local officials, GIS specialists, response/recovery planners, emergency managers, academics and community decision makers.

Papers will be accepted on the basis of a submitted abstract. An abstract should be between 500 and 750 words in length (references excluded) and submitted via e-mail to conference@support.hazus.us as embedded plain text or an attachment in MS Word, or PDF format. The submittal should also indicate the proposed format, for example, keynote speech, panel presentation, individual talk, or training session and intended length of presentation for which the abstract is being submitted.

Abstracts must be submitted no later than June 17, 2011.

Map Gallery Submissions

Don't miss your chance to display your map throughout the conference and be included in the conference proceedings. Individuals and groups may submit up to three maps. We encourage you to submit maps even if you cannot attend the conference. Awards will be presented for the following categories (you do not have to be present to win):

- Best practice for data improvements to Hazus-MH (Level 2 or 3 analyses)
- Best practice for incorporating Risk MAP
- Best incorporation of a Hazus-MH analysis into a mitigation plan
- Most innovative practice of Hazus-MH
- Best multi-hazard analysis
- Best integration of other tools with Hazus-MH

All maps should be submitted electronically in PDF format by July 15, 2011. You must also submit an abstract (less than 500 words) to accompany your map(s). Abstracts should include a title, the award category you are submitting under and names and title of all individuals that assisted with the map production (names are not included in the word count). For your convenience, we will print all maps and display them at the 5th Annual Hazus Conference and in the conference proceedings.

For these opportunities and conference updates, please email us: conference@support.hazus.us.

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