HAZUS User of the Year!
2010 1st Quarter

Congratulations to Shelby Hudson, GIS specialist, at AMEC Earth and Environmental, the 2010 1st Quarter HAZUS User of the Year. Ms. Hudson's use of HAZUS in support of state and local hazard mitigation plan risk assessments in Missouri, Mississippi, South Dakota, Kansas, Colorado, California, Nevada, and Virginia, sets her apart from the average user. She has worked on two statewide HAZUS flood risk assessments for Missouri and Mississippi. In the 2010 update to the Missouri State Hazard Mitigation Plan Ms. Hudson led an effort to improve previous Level 1 flood analyses by integrating depth grids developed from the DFIRM process for twenty-four counties. The improved maps and analyses will be made available to local governments in Missouri for integration into their local hazard mitigation plans. Ms. Hudson has also performed Level 2 flood hazard analyses for mitigation plans covering Jefferson County, Colorado; Poquoson, Virginia; and Wyandotte County, Kansas.

Ms. Hudson has been an enthusiastic promoter of HAZUS since she began using it in 2007, and has shared her knowledge and skills with other AMEC staff and HAZUS users. She has presented her HAZUS project experience at the 2008 and 2009 HAZUS User Conferences. Ms. Hudson is recently working to develop an internal HAZUS training program for AMEC staff and also assisting with an internal research and development program related to HAZUS.

Ms. Hudson is also spearheading a new HAZUS User Group, the Rocky Mountain HAZUS User Group, that covers seven states in the Rocky Mountain Region. The Rocky Mountain HAZUS User Group had its inaugural conference call in February 2010. Ms. Hudson is actively soliciting members and discussion topics for the Rocky Mountain HUG. In addition, Ms. Hudson is pursuing her HAZUS Practitioner certification.

Ms. Hudson's expertise in using HAZUS make her an outstanding HAZUS champion. FEMA is proud to recognize Ms. Hudson as the 2010 1st Quarter HAZUS User of the Year.

Congratulations!