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User Group calls:

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February 10, 2015

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More information on the User Group calls can be received by signing up for [GovDelivery](#) emails.

Thomas Mueller, Hazus Excellence Award Winner

Dr. Thomas Mueller is a professor in the Department of Earth Sciences at the California University of Pennsylvania where he has taught for 16 years. Along with teaching courses ranging from Emergency Management, Environmental Issues, and Crime Mapping, Dr. Mueller also serves as an adviser to students in the Geography Major with GIS and Emergency Management concentrations.

Dr. Mueller's work with Hazus in FEMA Region III involved the collection of responses to a region-wide assessment survey of geospatial data. Since Hazus operates with base-level Federal datasets, Dr. Mueller sought to investigate what type of local datasets were available at the county level. This information often tends to be difficult to track down, which can severely limit the full reach and power of the Hazus program's analyses.

As a "huge proponent of service learning projects," Dr. Mueller also sought to bring in students to the project to provide real world experiences. Students in his Spring 2014 GIS course parsed through surveys to gather geospatial data. In the Fall of 2014, two students he advises, Megan Boger and Kyle Snyder, continued to fill in the missing pieces of survey data to complete the assessments.

Dr. Mueller sees a "huge opportunity to partner universities with local administrators and counties to move data updates and assessments along."



Dr. Thomas Mueller is this month's Hazus Excellence Award Winner

Emphasizing this style of real world learning not only benefits the counties and the Hazus program, but improves upon a student's educational gains.

Dr. Mueller sees a big opportunity for Hazus to benefit from further university and student use. "Hazus can be a tool to bring communities and universities together and we have to find a way to make that happen."

For more on Dr. Mueller's work, visit his [faculty webpage](#).

Hazus-MH 2.2 Launching in January

Starting January 12, 2015, Hazus users will be able to download Hazus-MH 2.2. This release makes Hazus-MH compatible with ArcGIS 10.2.2, Windows 7 (32-bit and 64-bit) and Windows 8 (64-bit). Updates to the General Building

Stock and 2010 Census data are also being released at this time.

These upgrades to Hazus-MH 2.2 are part of a broader effort to modernize

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Upcoming Courses

E0174: Hazus-MH for Earthquake
March 30 – April 2, 2015

E0313: Basic Hazus-MH
April 13 – 16, 2015

E0317: Comprehensive Data Management for Hazus-MH
June 15 – 18, 2015

To download the course schedule and enroll, visit the [EMI Courses Page](#)

Contact Us

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Hazus MH 2.2 Continued

Hazus. Hazus Modernization will be implemented in a series of releases throughout the rest of 2015 and will help align Hazus with other applications and tools developed by FEMA. The goal of modernization is to provide improvements to the program's analysis capabilities and to enhance the technical framework of the program in order to prepare for any future needs and upgrades.

Those interested in installing Hazus-MH 2.2 first have to uninstall Hazus-MH 2.1. Installation instructions are provided in the Getting Started file that comes with the software download. Users can go to the [Hazus homepage](#) to download the software and .zip files containing updated state datasets.

Changes to Compatibility

Hazus-MH 2.2 is compatible with ArcGIS 10.2.2. Compatibility with other versions of ArcGIS is not supported. Hazus-MH 2.2 is also certified for Windows 7 and 8. Support for Windows XP has been discontinued.

Census data for 2000 is not available for download on the MSC with the release of Hazus-MH 2.2. Due to changes in Census boundaries, Census data from 2000 has not



been certified for use in Hazus-MH 2.2. Users should utilize Census data from 2000 only in Hazus 2.1 and earlier versions. Similarly, Census data for 2010 has only been certified

to run in Hazus-MH 2.2. These datasets are not compatible with earlier versions of Hazus.

Users may import .HPR files created in Hazus-MH 2.1 for viewing only in 2.2. While analysis in 2.1 can be rerun in 2.2, users should be aware that depending on the type of analysis, rerunning may introduce errors if there are conflicts with the 2010 census-based data that are included in the Hazus-MH 2.2 program data. Projects created in versions of Hazus earlier than 2.1 first must be imported into 2.1 and saved as 2.1 .HPRs. Only then can they be imported into Hazus-MH 2.2 for viewing.

To download Hazus-MH 2.2 now, visit the [MSC Hazus Page](#).

Transportation HUG December Call

On Friday, December 19, 2014, the Transportation Focused Hazus User Group held its first webinar and conference call. The group, which was announced at the 2014 Hazus Conference, was created with the aim of collaboration on and discussion of transportation analyses related to Hazus. The group hopes to build a community of interest around transportation analytics.

The first webinar showcased three powerful mapping tools for risk mitigation that can have tremendous impacts on transportation infrastructure security and stability during disasters.



Transit Emergency Response Application

Chelsea Treboniak, co-founder and owner of Critical Ops, a firm founded by military veterans to facilitate emergency preparedness, discussed a new product for transportation security called TERA: Transit Emergency Response Application.

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Transportation HUG Continued

As a sponsored project of the Transportation Research Board, TERA serves as a simulation-based training exercise that can be utilized anywhere you can find a broadband connection. It allows participants to rehearse strategic decision making skills during mock emergencies. The exercises are completely customizable, with multiple difficulty levels and individual, staff, and collective training options. The exercises also provide personalized feedback.

For more information on TERA or to reach out to the Critical Ops team, visit [their website](#).

Flood Inundation Maps

Marie C. Pepler, who currently serves as the National USGS Flood Inundation Mapping Program Coordinator at the Wisconsin Water Science Center, presented updated work on flood inundation map (FIM) projects.

FIMs are a tool utilized by USGS to translate complex hydrographs into fully functional maps that communicate risk and consequences to users. The process involves parsing out the particular stream reach data under investigation, completing hydraulic modeling of the designated area, and undergoing geospatial processing via the Flood Inundation Mapper Tool to showcase

probable areas of flooding.

For more information on FIMs and the work that USGS is doing, visit their [flood inundation page](#).

ShakeCast

In the final presentation of the webinar, David Wald and Loren L. Turner presented on an application developed with the support of the USGS and the California Department of Transportation that is used to analyze post-earthquake situational awareness.

ShakeCast, delivers data regarding earthquake shaking and compares these intensity measures against facilities, generating potential damage assessment notifications in the process, along with facility damage maps, and other web-based tools that can be used by emergency managers or responders. This data is automatically generated for both small and large earthquakes in areas where it is available and the tool can also be found online.

For more information on ShakeCast, visit the [USGS ShakeMap page](#).

To learn more about the Transportation HUG, reach out to Silvana Croope (Delaware DOT) at Silvana.Croope@state.de.us or Thomas Gates (Florida DOT) at Thomas.Gates@dot.state.fl.us.

