



Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) TIP #8: The IPAWS User Working Group via MAX.gov

November 2, 2018

Due to recent events regarding the use of IPAWS, the IPAWS Program Management Office (PMO) has launched an IPAWS User Working Group via MAX.gov to serve as a collaborative environment that will allow IPAWS users and industry partners to engage on a variety of topics. The objective of FEMA's IPAWS User Working Group is to provide an environment to pool resources and share alerting authorities' best practices such as policies, procedures, standard operating procedures (SOPs), software and vendor tool notes, and lessons learned. This virtual environment will offer enhanced insight and guidance on how to utilize IPAWS capabilities and resources, training, funding, the IPAWS Lab, the IPAWS Message Viewer, and offer support to incorporate public alerting practice into tests and exercises.

Preliminary discussion topics will include plans and procedures, testing guidelines and requirements, training and exercising, and commonly asked IPAWS questions.

The IPAWS User Working Group website is now live. In this initial effort, invitations were extended to 65 state and territorial points of contact (POCs).

During the next six months we will extend this access to all authorized alerting authorities. Stay tuned for additional information!

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