



Integrated Public Alert and Warning System IPAWS

Get Alerts, Stay Alive

Effective Public Warning Policies, Procedures, and Exercises



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Public Alert and Warning Essentials

- ❑ The ability to warn the public of imminent danger has been a priority for civilizations throughout the world for thousands of years
- ❑ Years ago, ancient man would use available tools to alert and warn their groups and villages. These tools included town criers, horns, conch shells, wood sticks, smoke, bells and other devices
- ❑ As is now, in old times an effective warning required various steps to work well together. The alert and warning originator needed to have a basic process and infrastructure:
 - a. that effectively receives and shares information; and understands the emergency as it evolves
 - b. that includes a decision making process and authority to alert and warn
 - c. that provides methods and devices to convey the alert and message
 - d. that provides adequate security to prevent unauthorized access or denial of service
 - e. that provides for practice and testing



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Public Alert and Warning Essentials

To plan for a public warning program, an authority should consider the following:

1. Identify your jurisdiction's hazards to document needs and requirements
2. Identify who is authorized to originate and manage alerts
3. Identify and engage with warning partners to seek their advice and council
4. Develop clear and repeatable warning policies, guidelines, procedures, training, test and exercise plans
5. Review and frequently update public warning plans and policies in close coordination with all warning partners
6. Educate the public on the importance of being informed and the use of warning sources
7. Test and exercise frequently



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Essential Assessment Functions

- Requirements
 - What are your needs?
- Scope
 - Define parameters
- Methodology
 - Phases of testing
 - Types of testing
- Execution
 - Partner outreach
 - Monitoring
- Analysis
- Improvement



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Who is JITC?

- JITC (a command of DISA) is an independent test and evaluation agency
- JITC (through an Inter-Agency Agreement (IAA)) provides technical support to the IPAWS PMO with tests, assessments, and exercises:
 - Device/system assessments
 - Live EAS/IPAWS tests
 - National-level EAS tests
 - Exploratory research



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IPAWS Lab

- IPAWS Lab provides an interactive safe (closed) end-to-end IPAWS environment:
 - Hands-on training/familiarity with IPAWS components
 - Plug-and-play atmosphere
 - End-to-end assessments
 - Developmental assessments
 - Demonstrations
- Conferencing center:
 - Webinars
 - Training
 - Demonstrations



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Phased Assessment Approach

- **Phase 1 - System Installation and Configuration Audit**

- Identify and draft proper requirements
- Review Functional Requirements (FR)
 - What are FRs?
 - A few examples:

| Req. ID | Assessment Criteria | Interfaced System(s) | Methodology | Functional Req. Met |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| FR. 0001 | System shall automatically log User out and return to Login screen if idle for 4 minutes, 59 seconds. | ABC Originator and IPAWS OPEN | JITC verified that ABC Originator automatically logs the User out and returns to the Login screen if idle for 4 minutes, 59 seconds. | Met; Phase II |
| FR. 0002 | System shall provide secure user access (e.g., User and Password login). | ABC Originator and IPAWS OPEN | JITC verified that ABC Originator provides secure user access (e.g., User and Password login). | Met; Phase II |
| FR. 0003 | System shall provide a Unique Identifier to every transmitted CAP alert. | ABC Originator and IPAWS OPEN | JITC verified that ABC Originator provides a Unique Identifier to every transmitted CAP alert. | Met; Phase II |

- Develop Assessment Plan
- Prepare assessment scripts
- Obtain User Manuals
- Confirm system/component installation (audit hardware/software)



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Assessment Script

| Assessment Script: NUW | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Verify that ABC Originator transports a CAP message to IPAWS OPEN. | | | |
| ABC Originator Functional Requirements: see attached listing | | | |
| Functional Requirements: FR.0001, FR.0002, FR.0003, FR.0011, FR.0012, FR.0015, FR.0016, FR.0017, FR.0018, FR.0028, FR.0036, FR.0039, FR.0040, FR.0041, FR.0042, FR.0043, FR.0044, FR.0045, FR.0050, FR.0058, FR.0059, FR.0060, FR.0061 | | | |
| Event # | Action | Expected Results | Observations |
| 1. | Log onto ABC Originator by using the address: http://local host/ABC user name: <u>JITCtester</u> password: <u>JITCtester</u> | | FR. 0002, FR. 0003, FR. 0011 |
| 2. | Under the operations tab select the "FEMA Alert Systems" button | A new browser tab should open with the headline "CAP Alerts" | FR. 0011 |
| 3. | Select the "Post to FEMA CAP Alert Systems" tab a) Select the "EAS" radio button b) Enter the alert headline "NUW Test #__" (please enter the next number in the test sequence) c) Select the Event "Nuclear Power Plant Warning" from the drop down menu d) Set the event "Effective Time" to the current time. e) Set the "Expires Time" to 20 minutes past current time. f) Select the scope to "Public" g) Select the urgency "Past" h) Select the certainty to "Likely" i) Select the severity to "Severe" j) Select the status to "Actual" k) Select the Category "Safety," "Health," & "CBRNE" (to select multiple hold down the control button) l) Select the COG "JITC (120042)" m) Enter alert description "Test. Test. Test. This is only a test of the alerting capabilities of the state of ABC. Test. Test. Test. #__" (please enter the next number in the test sequence) | | FR. 0011, FR. 0017, FR. 0018, FR. 0028, FR. 0036 |
| 5. | Select the "Post CAP Alert" button to send the alert | A confirmation window should pop up to verify the alert information. | FR. 0011, FR. 0059, FR. 0060 |



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Phased Assessment Approach

- **Phase 2 – Functional Assessment**
- Execute repeatable Assessment Scripts
- Maintain Traceability Matrix
- Provide Daily Status Reports
- Document observations/anomalies
- Provide a Quick Look Report
- Regression Assessment



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Phased Assessment Approach

- Phase 3 – Operational Assessment
- Field test
- Observe and record test
- Provide expert observations
- Analyze results, document observations and/or anomalies
- Provide Final Assessment Report



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Regular Exercises and Tests Result in Incremental Improvement



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Please submit more questions, ideas, and comments to:

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<http://www.fema.gov/ipaws>

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