

R2 –WEEKLY BULLETIN

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TIP of the Week

Need software installed?

Yen Pan

IT Services Branch

Is it authorized? Do you have a license? Software must be authorized by FEMA Enterprise Architecture. The IT staff strives to serve the user by providing technical support, but we also have to protect the FEMA network by ensuring software does not conflict with the system, or is unrelated to FEMA business. Unauthorized programs will be removed. A listing of authorized software can be found at http://online.fema.net/ea/content/tech_prod_main.htm. If the software is not authorized, a waiver is necessary. For more on the waiver process: <http://online.fema.net/ea/docs/transition/standards/EA%20request%20Forms/EA%20Hardware&Software%20Waiver%20Request%20Form%20&%20Instructions.doc>

Software must have a legal license. Most software needs to be purchased. Be aware of the licensing agreements and be careful with installing the same software onto multiple computers. Doing so may constitute software piracy. Installing illegal software can also bring heavy fines on the organization, in addition to negative publicity. If the software is authorized but there is no license, then you will have to purchase one via a 40-1. The signature of the IT Branch Chief is needed for approval.

RETREAT...TO MOVE FORWARD

The senior managers' retreat brought Regional senior leadership together to work towards a common vision for the Region. The first step was a verbal commitment to help each other, and to build the professionalism and public service orientation of the team. Respect, professionalism, transparency and team identification were key themes. On March 5 2009, Division Directors and Branch Chiefs will meet to brief their integrated Regional vision and objectives, as well as the metrics they will use to measure success.

Super Bowl Sunday ... Every Day of the Week

Mike Moriarty

Acting Regional Administrator

This Sunday Americans will gather in front of their televisions to eat, drink and wager on which of two competitors is best prepared to execute its game plan as a team. Merriam-Webster defines "team" as "a number of persons associated together in work or activity: a group on one side, as in football or debate." While the official definition doesn't evoke an emotional response, witnessing true teamwork certainly does – think of the young American Olympic hockey team of 1980, which "came together" to provide a clinic on teamwork to a more seasoned, talented and experienced Soviet team.

Here in Region II, we have all the ingredients needed to "come together" – talented members, a humanitarian mission and an institutional commitment to be the best at what we do. Over the coming months we must identify ways to share, collaborate and coordinate across divisions to develop an integrated "RII team" that operates with unity of purpose and effort. At this week's Managers' Offsite, we started the dialogue around four themes:

INCLUSION- Building the Team: The intent is for everyone to be a full team member. Making Region II more effective operationally and a better place to work is an ALL HANDS project.

CONTINUOUS SELF-IMPROVEMENT: Truly effective teams work within an environment of continuous self-improvement.

INTEGRATION : Our work is driven by disaster cycles (i.e. hurricane season). The work of one division supports and affects the work of the others, yet each division operates relatively independently. Areas of mission overlap and redundancy need to be explored, and the means for more effective collaboration and information sharing quickly developed.

LEANING FORWARD: FEMA's vision is to be the pre-eminent emergency response agency. A greater sense of urgency has to be instilled. Our readiness posture must be improved. When a state comes to us with a request for action, it is because they need the help. Being responsive and providing that help is our top priority.

But to make Region II a better team, we need your help in the form of ideas, participation and collaboration. Whether on a gridiron, a factory floor or a disaster site, integrated teamwork is critical to success.

RII CAD to Get Survey

UASACE 249th to Conduct Survey

Dug Salley

Acting Division Director, DOD

FEMA Region II, in coordination with Disaster Operations Directorate (GAP program) and Logistics Management Directorate (LMD), have commissioned the Army Corp of Engineers USACE 249th to conduct a survey of all critical infrastructure and shelters in the Caribbean. This study is a first of its kind, and will provide generators specifications for all areas of the Caribbean. In the event of a disaster FEMA will have first-hand critical knowledge of the type of generator at each facility and the required peripherals needed for a rapid response. March 2009 is the anticipated start date of the survey.

New York Gets Emergency Declaration

16 Counties Designated

Sandra Martin

External Affairs Officer, FEMA-3299-EM-NY

On December 18, 2008, the President issued an emergency declaration under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, FEMA-3299-EM-NY. The following 16 counties of the State of New York were designated as adversely affected:

Albany, Chenango, Columbia, Delaware, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Otsego, Putnam, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Sullivan, Ulster, and Washington Counties for Direct Federal Assistance (Category B) under the Public Assistance program.

On January 16, nine counties (in italics) were designated for Category A, debris removal and Category B, emergency protective measures, in addition to the Direct Federal Assistance Declaration.



Photo Courtesy of:
Capital News 9

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: Now that the transition has occurred who is in charge at Region II?

A: Mike Moriarty, Deputy Regional Administrator, is the Acting Regional Administrator. Nancy Ward is the Acting Administrator of FEMA, and Dave Garratt is the Acting Deputy Administrator of FEMA

Please submit your questions to Anna Fusco via email no later than close of business Wednesday, so we can research and provide answers. We'll try to answer a question every week.

Faces of Region II



Region II's Community Relations teams distributed information and answered questions about Individual Assistance following Puerto Rico's disastrous flooding in October 2008 (DR-1798).

