

The Evolution of Emergency

Broadcasting



1951 - 1963
CONELRAD

Originally called the “Key Station System,” the **CONTROL** of **ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION** (CONELRAD) was established in August 1951.

Participating stations tuned to 640 & 1240 kHz AM and initiated a special sequence and procedure designed to warn citizens.

1963 - 1997
EBS

EBS was initiated to address the nation through audible alerts. It did not allow for targeted messaging.

System upgraded in 1976 to provide for better and more accurate handling of alert receptions.

Originally designed to provide the President with an expeditious method of communicating with the American Public, it was expanded for use during peacetime at state and local levels.

1997 - 2006
EAS

EAS jointly coordinated by the FCC, FEMA and NWS.

Designed for President to speak to American people within 10 minutes.

EAS messages composed of 4 parts:

- Digitally encoded header
- Attention Signal
- Audio Announcement
- Digitally encoded end-of-message marker

2006
IPAWS

IPAWS modernizes and integrates the nation’s alert and warning infrastructure.

Integrates new and existing public alert and warning systems and technologies

Provides authorities a broader range of message options and multiple communications pathways

Increases capability to alert and warn communities of all hazards impacting public safety.



FEMA