



MOD Team Times

E-Newsletter for MOD Team Members

Inside This Issue

- ◆ **State & Local Workgroup**
- ◆ **Dwight Beranek**
- ◆ **MIP Room at ASFPM**
- ◆ **Coastal Work Group**

State and Local Work Group Meets

State and local officials from all 10 FEMA Regions convened May 17 and 18 for the third meeting of the Flood Map Modernization (Map Mod) State and Local Work Group in Alexandria, VA.

Participants gathered to discuss continued coordination on key program initiatives, including the development of a framework for map maintenance, the emphasis of this meeting. Participants were challenged with considering creative solutions for various maintenance scenarios.

Meetings such as this provide an essential forum for FEMA to continue a dialogue that is vital to maintaining the success of Map Mod. State and local input and these discussions have contributed to development of Procedure Memorandum 38 (issued September 2, 2005), the Floodplain Boundary Standard Audit Process, and the definition of flood risk.



Source: Lisa Messano, 703-960-8800 ext. 3048

Beranek Joins MOD Team Program Management Office

The Mapping on Demand (MOD) team has engaged the skills of an award-winning engineer to assist with FEMA's Flood Map Modernization (Map Mod) effort.



Dwight Beranek, a 38-year veteran of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), moved into the role of MOD team program executive officer effective June 1, 2006.

With an extensive background in program management, career management, and executive leadership for the design and construction industry, Beranek provides a wealth of knowledge the MOD team will use to assist FEMA with the Map Mod effort.

"We would like to help FEMA make the most of public-private partnerships," Beranek said of his future plans for working with FEMA. "I also want to work with FEMA on program transformation and building a successful partnership."

See Beranek Page 2

FEMA to Host MIP Room at 2006 ASFPM Conference

FEMA and the Mapping on Demand (MOD) team will host a Mapping Information Platform (MIP) room at the 2006 Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) annual conference in Albuquerque, NM, June 11-16.

The room, which will be located on the ground level of the Albuquerque Convention Center, will feature four separate stations dedicated to the following MIP functions:

- Dashboard & Reports
- Workflow
- DFIRM tools
- WISE tools

Each station will demonstrate capabilities and resources for mapping partners. Training schedules will be posted and subject matter experts will be available to discuss the MIP's various capabilities. This will provide an excellent opportunity for mapping partners to get a close-up view of the MIP and its functions.



See ASFPM Page 2

Please Submit Article Ideas to:

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Beranek Continued from page 1

Beranek joined the MOD team after serving as USACE deputy director of military programs from 2003 to 2006. In this capacity, he provided senior executive direction and leadership for various USACE programs valued at billions of dollars per year.

Beranek received the President's Medal from the American Society of Civil Engineers in 2003. Since 1990, fewer than 30 individuals nationwide have received this award, which recognizes eminent engineers for their accomplishments and contributions.

In 2005, the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) named Beranek to its Academy of Fellows. SAME also presented its Presidential Medal to Beranek, who at the time was chairman of the USACE Knowledge Management Committee, in 2001.

Beranek holds two Master's degrees, one in public administration from the American University in Washington, D.C., and the other in Business Administration from Boston University in Boston, MA. He also holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Northwestern University in Evanston, IL.

ASFPM Continued from page 1

All ASFPM attendees are invited to stop by FEMA's Flood Map Modernization (Map Mod) booth (booth H & I, Kiva foyer) and request a MIP room schedule.

Source: Lisa Messano, 703-960-8800 ext. 3048

MIP Room Hours

Tuesday, June 13	9:00 am – 4:30 pm*
Wednesday, June 14	9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Thursday, June 15	9:00 am – 4:00 pm

*Note: The MIP room will be closed from 1:30 – 3:30 for MIP presentations on eLOMA & Value of the Mapping Information Platform - Business Processes, Reports, Driving Decisions (Track 6)

Coastal Work Group Meets to Discuss Findings

FEMA, MOD team, and mapping partner representatives met May 23 and 24 for the second in a series of Coastal Flood Hazard Analysis and Mapping workshops leading up to development of an Atlantic/Gulf Region coastal guidance document.

This workshop is also intended to produce updates to appendix D to the **Guidelines and Specifications for Flood Hazard Mapping Partners**, which is titled "Guidance for Coastal Flooding Analyses and Mapping."

Findings from this workgroup are scheduled to be assembled into a single document specifically for the Atlantic/Gulf Coast region. Once a draft Atlantic/Gulf Coast document is developed, it will be joined with findings from the Pacific Coast work group, and possible with findings regarding the Great Lakes coast, to form a proposed revised appendix D.

The genesis of this work group occurred in 2003. Recognizing that many coastal areas contain the nation's most densely populated cities and towns, FEMA assembled coastal engineers and scientists to evaluate existing FEMA procedures for delineating coastal flood hazard areas in three regions – the Pacific coast, the Atlantic/Gulf coast, and the Great Lakes.

The Pacific coast work group began meeting first and has completed its findings. The Atlantic/Gulf coast work group conducted its first meeting in late 2005 in Denton, TX.

After discussing the 2005 hurricane season and its initial and lasting effects on coastal Louisiana and Mississippi, attendees at this most recent meeting delivered a number of presentations focusing on specific coastal topics, including flood frequency analysis methods, waves and water levels, wave set-up, run-up, and overtopping; coastal erosion; coastal structures; mapping of flood hazard zones and base flood elevations (BFEs); and study documentation.

The work group plans to improve appendix D of the **Guidelines and Specifications** by providing greater depth. In addition, the work group is considering replacing model-specific language with revised language that is more data-specific.

Coastal characteristics up and down the East Coast and in the Gulf vary. For instance, the central and south Atlantic coastal regions of the United States feature barrier and drowned valley coasts, whereas the eastern Gulf region consists primarily of wetland mangrove and barrier coasts.

Recognizing the uniqueness of coastal situations from one to the next, the work group hopes to encourage technical judgment and currently plans to offer insight and recommendations, rather than a singular, clearly stated method for all of the varying areas and situations.

Source: Jonathan Westcott, 703-960-8800 ext. 5301