Studies in Texas, Revisions in Virginia: MIP Workflow Training Wave 1 Began this Month

The Mapping Information Platform (MIP) now provides a workflow management tool for tracking and reporting study, revision, and amendment project data. Last week in Denton, Texas, about 35 people received training to manage the study process in Region VI using the MIP.

This week in Alexandria, VA, 40 people learned how to manage the revision process for Regions IV, V, VI VII, and IX.

Studies training participants included people from all of the mapping partners that were invited to attend, including FEMA and MOD team employees, IDIQs, CTPs, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Special thanks to the Denton, TX, Study Deployment Team Members: Steve Altman (RMC 6), Michael Anderson (RMC 6), David Beech (MOD team HQ), Marybeth Breed (RMC 4), Kira Brooks (MOD team HQ), Brenda Erickson (FEMA HQ), Linda Hawk (MOD team HQ), Kevin Long (FEMA HQ), Matt Nuss (MOD team HQ), Andrea Ryon, (MOD team HQ), Nancy Steinberger (RMC 8), Susan Tarkenton (MOD team HQ), Mark Vieira (FEMA RIV), Ryan Waller (MOD team HQ), and Tracey Whedon (MOD team HQ).

Revisions Deployment Team Members David Mummert and Luis Rodriguez led the training for MOD team employees in Alexandria. Mummert will kick off Amendment training later this summer.

By the end of September, mapping partners, FEMA employees, and MOD team members will be trained across all 10 Regions. Those receiving training will understand the newly documented end-to-end workflow for making and maintaining flood maps. They will be better able to forecast their workload and report their successes by using the MIP’s workflow functions.

Source: Kris McLaughlin, 703-960-8800 ext. 5316
FEMA Testifies Before Congress

On July 12, FEMA testified at a Congressional Hearing in front of the House Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity. The Hearing was called to examine the Map Mod effort and provide the Committee Members an opportunity to ask questions about Map Mod, on topics such as contracting practices and overall program management. This was the first Congressional Hearing dedicated to the oversight of Map Mod, so it gave FEMA the opportunity to share with Congress the many successes of the effort. Two private engineering firms, as well as two important stakeholder groups, the Association of State Floodplain Managers and the National Flood Determination Association, were also asked to testify. Members of the Map Mod community who testified were supportive of the overall effort and urged Congress to continue supporting Map Mod. “I am delighted that everyone who testified at the Hearing had good things to say about Map Mod. We all should feel proud of what we have achieved to date,” said Roz Trojan, MOD team Program Executive.

If you want to read the testimony of the July 12 Congressional Hearing, visit the House Committee on Financial Services Web site at http://financialservices.house.gov/hearings.asp?formmode=detail&hearing=403.

Source: Chris Campbell, 703-960-8800 ext. 3044

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<tr>
<th>NAME AND TITLE OF WITNESS</th>
<th>TITLE OF TESTIMONY SUBMISSION</th>
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<tr>
<td>David Maurstad, Acting Mitigation Division Director and Federal Insurance Administrator, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Department of Homeland Security</td>
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<td>Michael Bullock, President, Intersmap Federal Services, Inc.</td>
<td>Untitled</td>
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<td>Cheryl Small, President, National Flood Determination Association</td>
<td>“Flood Map Modernization Initiative”</td>
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<td>James Williams, Co-Chairman, Mapping and Engineering Standards Committee, Association of State Floodplain Managers, Inc.</td>
<td>“Implementation of FEMA’s Flood Map Modernization Program”</td>
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FEMA and MOD Team Representatives Participate in Boulder, CO Workshop

Last week, senior FEMA and MOD team representatives participated in the 30th Annual Hazards Research and Applications Workshop sponsored by the Natural Hazards Center in Boulder, CO. Additionally, some senior MOD team managers met with members of two stakeholder groups.

30th Annual Hazards Research and Applications Workshop

This invitation-only workshop brings together academicians, policy makers, and representatives of local governments, Non-Government Agencies, and the private sector to discuss dealing with hazards and disasters. The Workshop integrates different hazards (floods, earthquakes, droughts, terrorism, etc.) and different hazard disciplines (disaster preparation, disaster response, insurance, disaster communication, etc.).

“This is one of my favorite conferences because it brings together the different practitioners who need to work together to make people less vulnerable to hazards,” said Jim Murphy, the MOD team’s Risk Manager and Strategic Advisor. “The conference brings together the best minds in the field to have meaningful discussions.”
MIP Release 3 Moves into Cycle 1 of System Integration Testing

Last Friday, July 15th, the MIP Release 3 team completed the full integration test build. Working long hours over the weekend – remotely and in Alexandria – the team resourcefully solved problems to fix blocking defects. The team met entry criteria to start cycle 1 of system integration testing (SIT), and testing began on Monday, July 18. About 75 percent of the software code went into test, including:

- eLOMA
- Mapping
- PALT
- Reports
- Revisions
- Sequencing Tool
- Studies
- Tools Integration

By this weekend, the remaining code will be in the test mode:

- Content Manager
- Dashboard
- Portal Static Content
- Process Admin Total

The SIT cycles are on a tight schedule. Cycles 1 and 2 should be completed by late August. The next tests are scheduled to be completed by the end of August. Then, software will go through user acceptance testing (UAT). The team is on track to deliver MIP Release 3 to FEMA on September 30.

MIP Release 3 will provide the ability to better manage engineering and mapping data, enabling partners be more competitive and helping FEMA protect its investment. MIP Release 3 will add the integration of tools with the Release 2.2 workflow steps and streamline the ability to capture and retrieve engineering and mapping data. This release will also include the automation of simple Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) processing through the eLOMA application.

Source: Kris McLaughlin, 703-960-8800 ext. 5316