

Mission and Objectives

In collaboration with federal government departments, the provinces, and the private sector.

- Facilitate the establishment of a Canada Wide Integrated Network for Public Alerting/Warning based on existing broadcasting infrastructures, cellular and the Internet,
- Stimulate the development of advanced and highly addressable telecommunications system for high-risk areas, and
- Develop a Guide for Public Alerting /Warning in Canada.

A Canada-Wide Public Alerting/Warning Integrated Network

A Canada-Wide Integrated Network for Public Alerting and Warning is a distributed network that integrates, at the national, provincial and local levels, the access, administration, transmission and delivery of emergency public alert and warning messages to the public in the affected area. It is a secured and redundant network that provides for the delivery of standardized all hazards alert and warning messages to the public and information sharing between public officials through different means of dissemination with minimum time delay, human intervention and resources.

A Guide for Public Alerting/Warning in Canada

To promote guidelines in important areas such as Principles for an Effective Public Alerting System, General conditions of system activation, Roles and Responsibilities, Effective Messaging, Protocols, and Public Education and Awareness.

Technologies

A complement of technologies are needed to reach the maximum number of people within an effected area:

- Broadcast: radio, television and cable
- Telecommunications Wireline and Wireless
- Weatheradio Network operated by Meteorological Services Canada (MSC)
- Indoor and outdoor sirens
- Internet

Activities: Studies/Field Trials/Forums

- Document provincial needs and case study on the implementation of the NRCAER notification system
- Studies on the use of radio broadcasting, Internet, Wireless and Satellite communication for Public Alerting/Warning
- Broadcasting Field Trials:
 - WeatherAlarm - MSC
 - CBC Emergency Alerting System

(EAS) Field Trial - Canadian Broadcasting Corporation

- Radio Data Service- e-Radio

- Telephone based field trials:
 - Emergency Notification Field Trial and Comparative Study- City of Sarnia and Bell Canada
 - Geographic Public Alerting - New Brunswick Department of Public Safety, Aliant Incorporated and Caris Limited
 - Telus Geomatics - City of Ottawa, Coquitlam and Vancouver
- Other Projects
 - Draft Guidelines on the Use of 9-1-1 database for Public Alerting/Warning - NRCAER and other municipal and provincial emergency measures organizations
 - Siren and Public Education project - City of Brandon
 - Internet Solution - City of Ottawa and City of Guelph and Sombra Labs/Solona Networks
 - Expansion of WeatherRadio to All Hazards and examination of AlertGuard television sets - MSC
- Canadian Public Alerting Forums and Workshops

Working Groups

- Federal Government Committee: to provide advice and support.
- Provincial Champions' Group: to coordinate a Canada-Wide Integrated