



DisasterLAN™ Interoperable Messaging Module

What is DisasterLAN™?

DisasterLAN™ is a state-of-the-art web-based crisis information management system designed for use in emergency operations centers (EOCs). Designed by emergency managers, for emergency managers, DisasterLAN™ provides an easy-to-use interface based upon the workflow requirements of the emergency management community. It is used by agencies at state, county and local levels, as well as by private corporations. DisasterLAN™ is fully NIMS-compliant, modular in design, and highly secure. Each module within DisasterLAN™ is aimed at fulfilling a specific need within the EOC. Furthermore, the web-based architecture of DisasterLAN™ allows emergency managers to participate in emergency management activities no matter where they are in the world. The information that follows focuses on DisasterLAN's™ Interoperable Messaging Module. Information on other modules can be found at www.disasterlan.com.

BCG

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The screenshot shows the 'External Message Creator' web interface in Internet Explorer. The browser address bar shows 'http://state.eoc.disasterlan.gov'. The page title is 'New External Message'. The interface includes a navigation bar with 'Main Menu', 'Message Center', and 'Back' buttons. The form is divided into several sections:

- Distribution Information:** Includes 'Distribution Type' (Emergency Provider Access Directory), 'EDXL Header' (checked), and 'Cap Version' (1.0 selected).
- Incident Information:** Includes 'Incident Headline' (Suspicious package found on GW Bridge - radiation detected), 'Incident Description' (Radiation has been detected in a suspicious package that was found on the George Washington Bridge.), 'Response Type' (Evacuate), and 'Instructions / Actions' (HAZMAT recommends immediate evacuatio of all personnel within 0.5 mile radius of the George Washington Bridge.).
- Message Information:** Includes 'Sender Name' (Mark Harris), 'Event Type' (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear or High-Yield Explosive threat or attack), and 'Event' (-- Select --). Below this are four columns of radio buttons for 'Message Type' (Alert selected), 'Message Status' (Exercise selected), 'Urgency' (Immediate selected), and 'Severity' (Extreme selected).
- Distribution Information (second section):** Includes 'Scope' (Private), 'Level of Government' (State selected), and 'Recipient Type' (9-1-1/Public Safety Answering Point selected).

Interoperable messages can be created using DisasterLAN's™ CAP-compliant data entry form.

In today's world, the rapid movement of information is essential to effective crisis management. Whether sharing resource requests, warnings, or other types of alert notifications, speed is of the essence

when property and lives are at stake. DisasterLAN's™ Interoperable Messaging Module was designed specifically for transmitting and receiving interoperable

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Interoperable Messaging Module Fast Facts

- *Send and receive digital interoperable emergency messages*
- *Fully compliant with the CAP and EDXL standards for interoperability*
- *Communicate with other standards-compliant systems*
- *Instantly share resource requests, warnings and alerts*
- *Instantly receive automated sensor data from CAP-enabled devices*

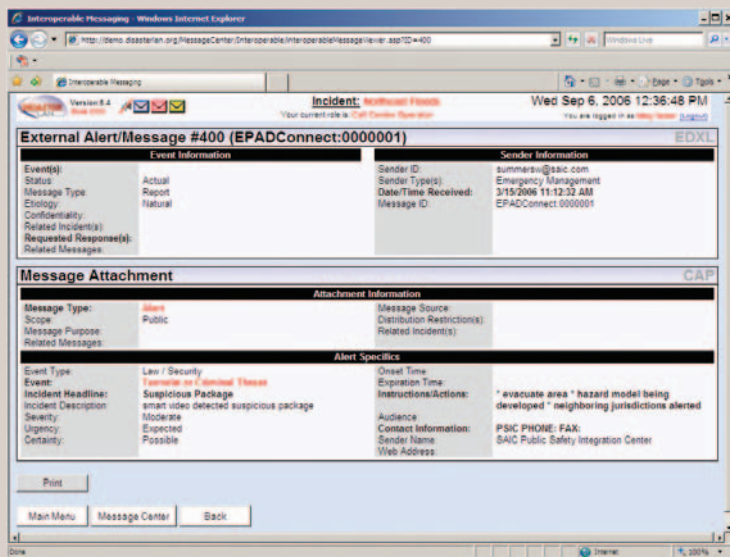
DisasterLAN™ Interoperable Messaging Module

messages with other emergency information and warning systems. DisasterLAN™ utilizes the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) and EDXL to format and address interoperable messages.

DisasterLAN's™ Interoperable Messaging Module provides a user-friendly template-driven interface for the creation of emergency messages or alert notifications. Information on impacted geography can easily be added to an interoperable message via DisasterLAN's™ integrated GIS tools. Points, polygons, or named municipal regions can all be identified as geographically impacted areas, and geospatial data can be shared as part of the message. Additionally,

automatic address geocoding can be used to embed geospatial data within an interoperable message.

Viewing interoperable messages is also easy within DisasterLAN™. A summary of all inbound messages is displayed in a convenient tabular view, and individual messages can be viewed with a simple click of the mouse. Using DisasterLAN's™ GIS Map Viewer, users can easily visualize incident location or impacted geography on a digital map. As with messages created using DisasterLAN's™ Interoperable Messaging Module, received messages are archived within DisasterLAN™.

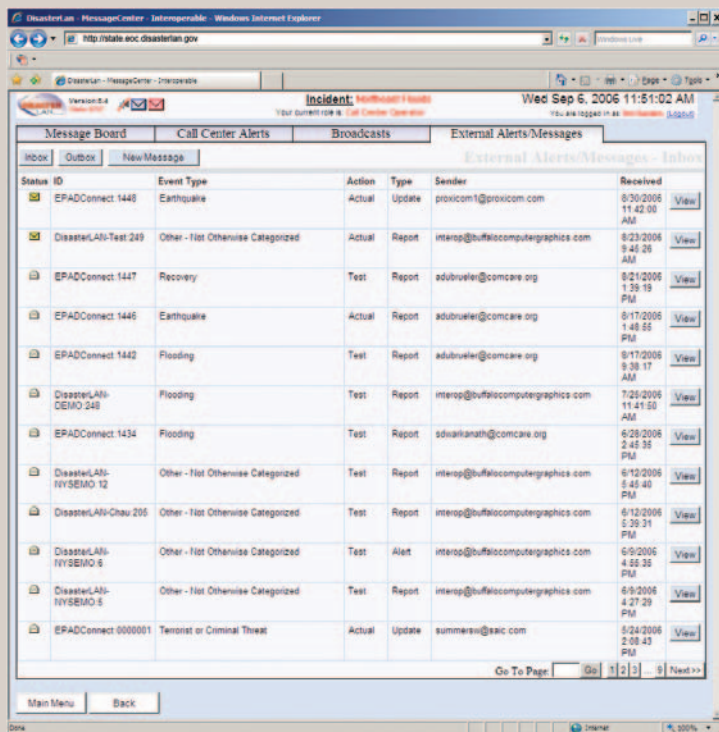


Incoming interoperable messages can be viewed within DisasterLAN's™ Interoperable Messaging Module.

What is CAP and EDXL?

The Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) is an open, non-proprietary digital message format for exchanging all-hazard emergency alerts and public warning notifications. Because CAP messages are consistent, they can be disseminated simultaneously over a variety of different networks and warning systems, thus facilitating crisis communication. As an interoperability standard for emergency notification, CAP is widely used by both private and public entities including the National Weather Service, United States Geological Survey, Department of Homeland Security, and many others. CAP is intended to advance incident preparedness and response to emergency situations.

EDXL, or the Emergency Data Exchange Language, is an XML-based standard developed for routing 'payload' message sets (e.g., CAP messages). It was designed as a result of the United States Department of Homeland Security's Disaster Management eGov initiative to solve data sharing problems related to emergency information. EDXL provides a framework for routing information to local, state, tribal, national, and non-governmental organizations that provide emergency response and management services.



Interoperable messages received by DisasterLAN™ are summarized in a tabular format.