Disseminating weather and other emergency management information

Bob Glancy, National Weather Service Kevin Stewart, Urban Drainage and Flood Control District

Front Range Emergency Management Forum Meeting Parker City Hall

December 11, 2002



I. Weather

- ** NWS EMWIN— Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
- * Local customization and rebroadcast of EMWIN and other products.

II. Other Notifications

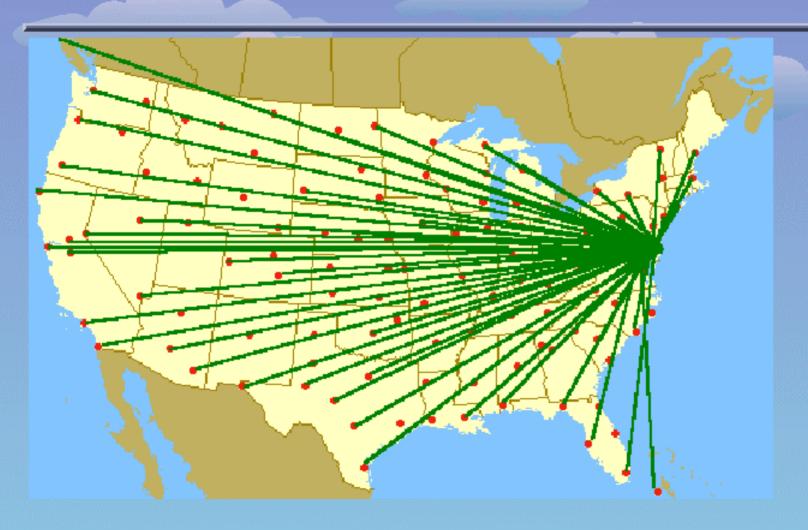
- ***** Media alerts
- School closings
- Ozone warnings
- * Regional Amber Plan
- **EOC** activations
- * Terror threats/incidents
- Other examples

A working model—Harris County, Texas
Internet-based technologies

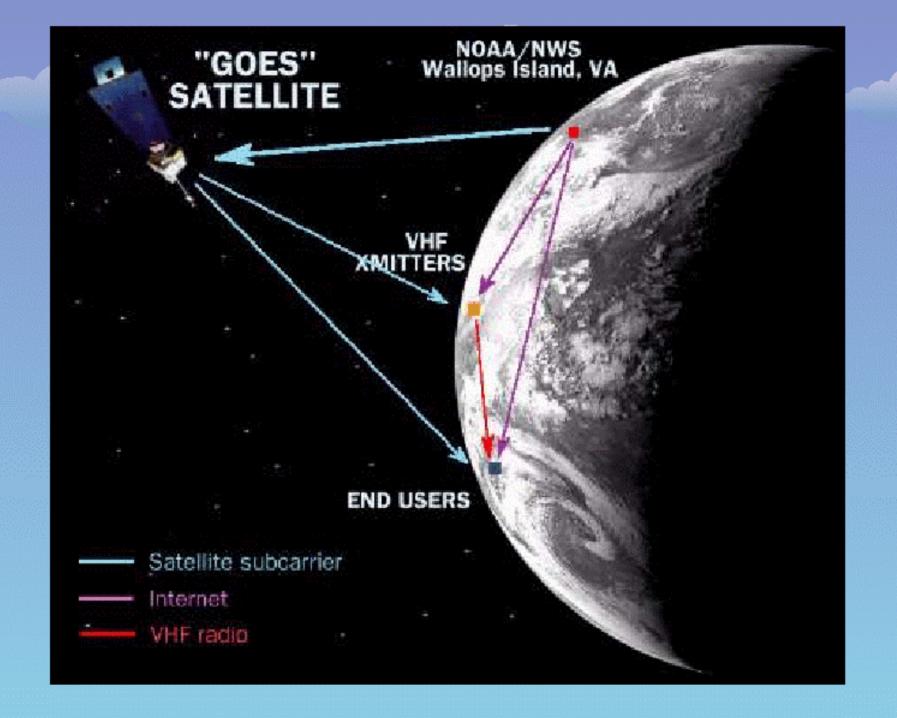
National Weather Service EMWIN

Emergency Managers Weather Information Network

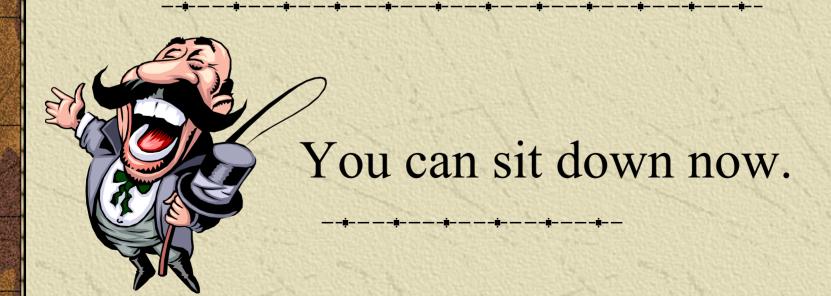
How does EM WIN work?

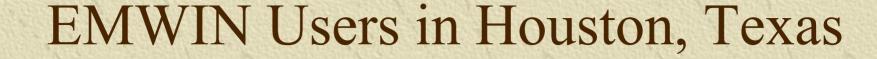


NWS products are sent to Wallops Island Virginia for satellite uplink.



Thank you Bob!





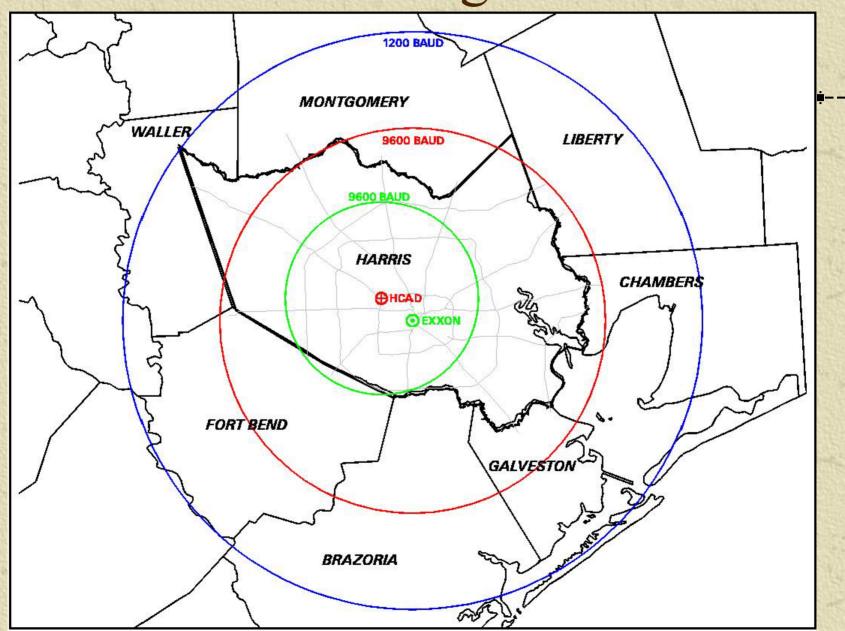
- Harris County
 Government Offices
- Galveston and Fort Bend County EOCs
- * Area Cities
- * Harris County Sheriff and Constable Patrol Vehicles

- Refineries and Manufacturing Plants
- * Lifeflight Dispatcher
- ★ Six Flags Astroworld
- * Skywarn Volunteers
- *** PBS Stations**
- Independent School Districts

Typical Patrol Car Installation



Broadcast Coverage Area



EMWIN Downlink Antennas



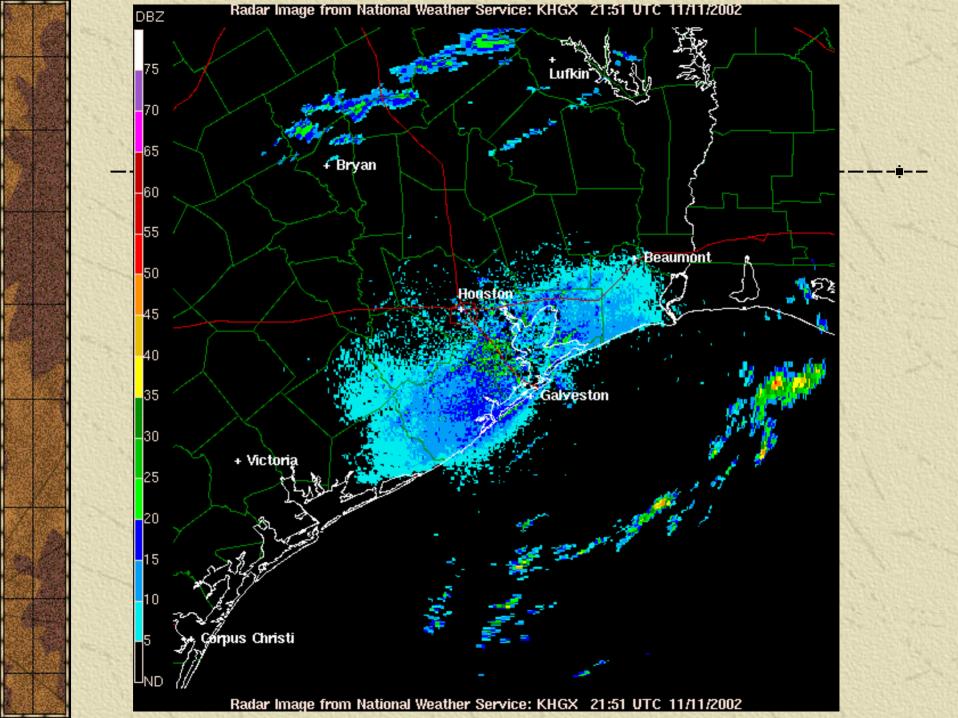
Broadcast Control Point





- * Web and mail list server
- ** Weather email & paging servers (automated)
- *** Current Radar**
- * Lightning detector
- * VHF broadcast servers (1200 & 9600 baud)
- * Off-air monitor





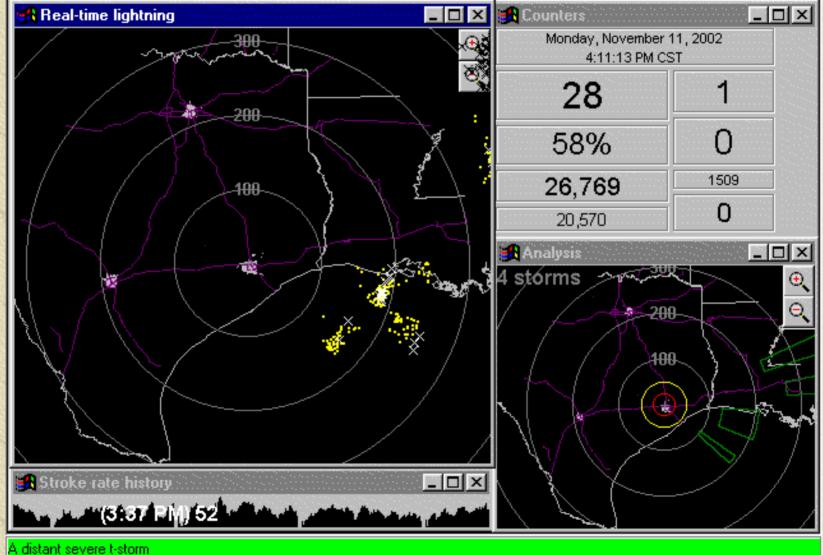
Lightning Detection—a local add-on

Lightning/2000, EMWIN-Houston, TX. Not for protection of life or property. http://www.emwin.org

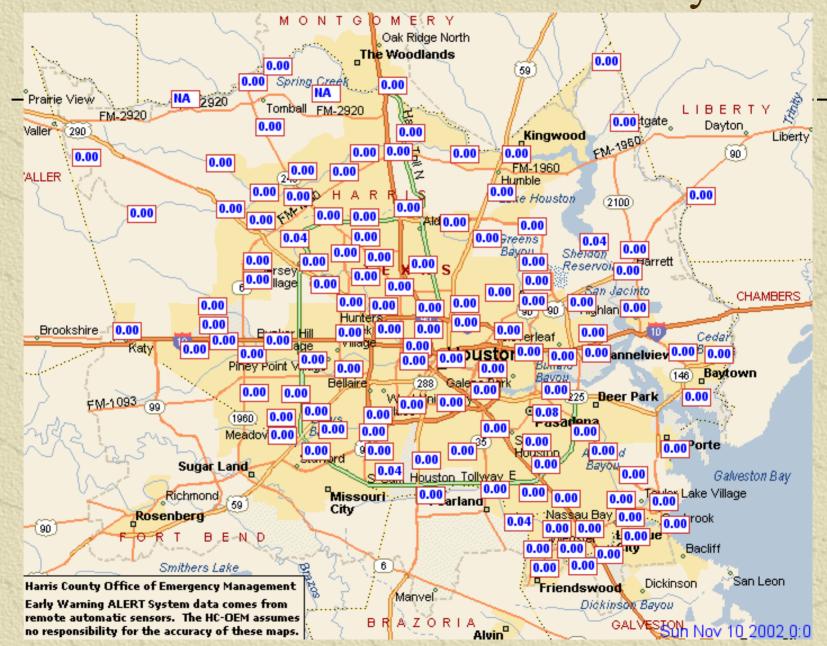
File Edit Window Options Help

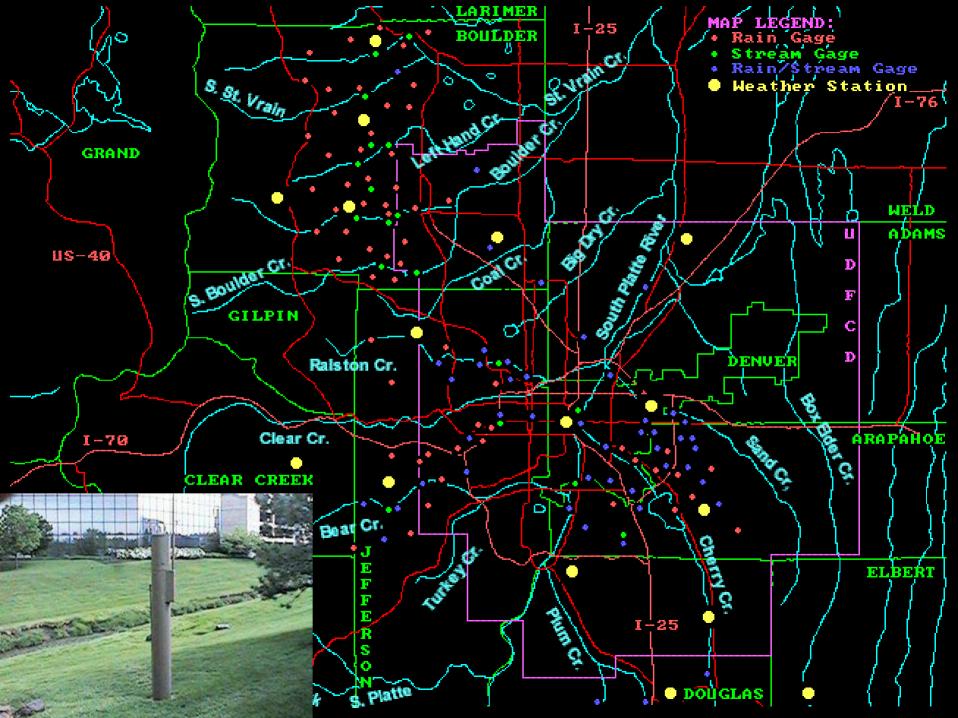
Real-time lightning

Counters

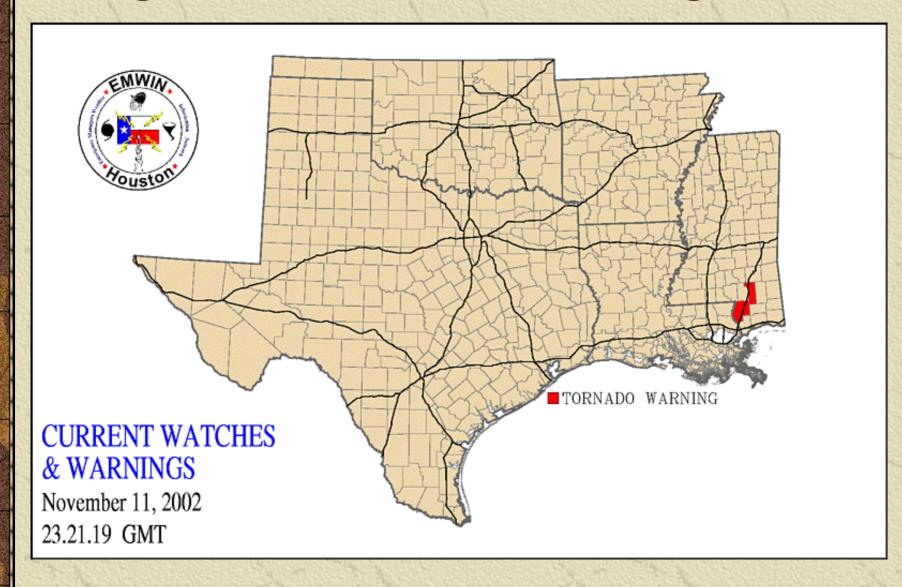


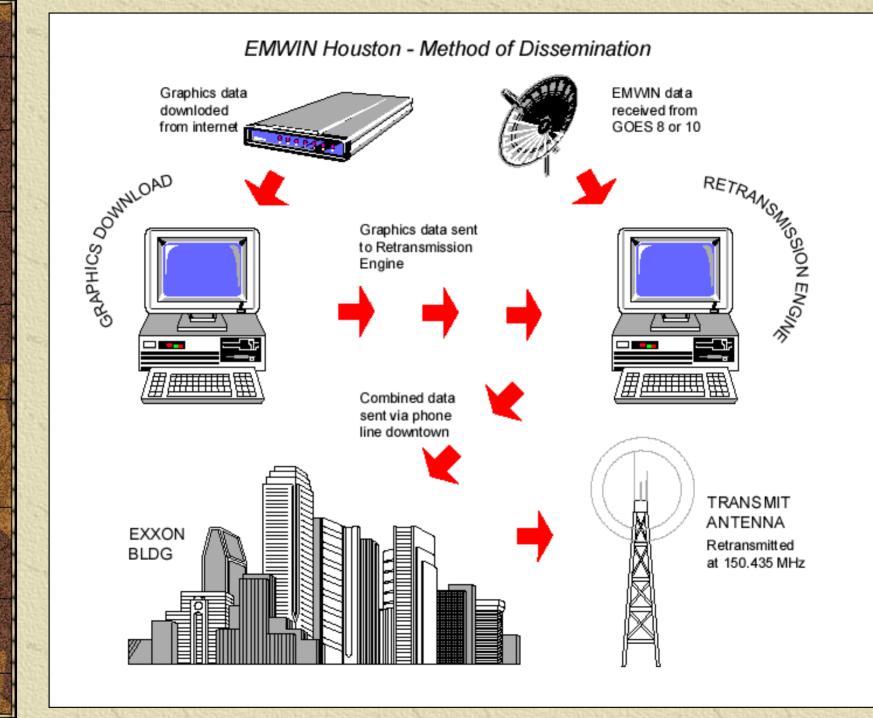
Real-Time rainfall from ALERT System





Regional Weather Warnings





Part II—disseminating other types of emergency information

- ** Information Examples: Media alerts, school closings, air quality warnings, road closures, regional Amber plan, EOC activations, terror/incidents
- **Common Methods:** phone, radio, pager, CCIC, cell phone, NAWAS, EAS, METS, news media.
- ** Other Methods: automated procedures using Internet/Intranet technologies—the Houston model.

Discussion items and some decisions to make...

- ** Is the Houston model workable here? (EMWIN & Internet Dissemination)
- ** Are Internet communications an acceptable alternative for METS? (*Kim Stiegelmeier*)
- ** Who should be the lead agencies?
- ** Who can help with a preliminary design for EMWIN downlink/rebroadcast system?
- ** Where can equipment be located?
- ** Who will be responsible for maintenance?