
DisasterAWARE 4.1.1: Release Notes

PRODUCT RELEASE INFORMATION

Product:	http://www.pdc.org/emops http://www.pdc.org/atlas
Release Number:	4.1.1
Release Date:	December 28, 2010
Customer Support:	For more information or to provide feedback send an email to disaster@pdc.org

INTRODUCTION

This document contains the release notes that apply to DisasterAWARE Release 4.1.1 as deployed and hosted by PDC. Some of the information does not apply to the Atlas product, which has a limited set of functionality. The following sections itemize new features for each of the 4x releases (dating back to April 2010), defect resolution in the current release, known issues with workarounds (if available) and a list of features that have been identified for future development (not comprehensive). This information supplements the What's New document (included with the application) and training materials that are available separately. The Release Notes document is intended for a technical audience familiar with the application.

Please note that several functions are being released in prototype form, which means that the function may require further design and/or development and/or enhanced infrastructure before it is considered ready for mission-critical use. Users are encouraged to provide feedback on these functions in particular, as resources for additional development will be allocated based on this feedback.

Also note that there are a number of functions delivered with this release that are "forward leaning" which means that they provide foundational technology upon which future, user-facing capabilities will be built. Examples include the support for KML to be served from the application server, virtual layers, and secured map services. The presence of this functionality may not be evident to end users, but is available in the application for testing and further development in the coming cycles.

WHAT'S NEW?

Additional information is available on the Links palette in the What's New document.

4.1.1: 28-Dec-2010

- Resolved issue with virtual layers and timeout error handling
- Layers with scale thresholds can now be clustered (cluster view still in prototype)
- Zoom-in on cluster view uses appropriate scale
- Viewing image products in full screen no longer shifts display elements
- Folder products are omitted from the product count number
- The eye icon (filter layers based on visibility) in the TOC now highlights when active
- Overview map extent box algorithm adjusted to better reflect viewable extent
- Resolved issue with Identify results not returning data for from cases

4.1: 10-Nov-2010

- Capability to create and share bookmarks; includes the capability for users to establish a default view (layers and extent) that is loaded when the user logs into the system
- On-screen notification of new/updated Hazards (works just like the email notifications from Microsoft Outlook)
- News channels as a palette (prototype)
- Cluster View (prototype)
- Product security difficult to use
 - This functionality has remained available as a back-office service since being removed from the GUI at the 4.0 release. Addressing this issue resulted in a redesigned user interface for administering product restriction. The functionality mimics earlier versions of EMOPS.
- H&P Palette "light" delivers a smaller version of the H&P Palette (H&P max); user can toggle between the two formats
- Scale bar
- Secured Map Services
 - This functionality has always been available; this release addresses usability issues with the function. Layers that are secured are now hidden from users that do not have permission to see them.
- Virtual Layers/Secured Map Services
 - Virtual Layers enables grouping several different map layers into what appears to the user as a single layer. This grouping is accomplished via configuration and will be transparent to the end user. Use cases include representations of a data set at different scales, or a collection of regional data sets.
 - Virtual Layers with Security: When a virtual layer is turned on, all the layers that participate in that virtual layer are turned on. The participating layers can still have security restrictions, just like regular layers in a secured map service. In this case, a user will only see the layers in a virtual layer for which he/she has permission (and the layers with no restrictions). If a user lacks permission to all the layers participating in a Virtual Layer, then MSMV will hide the Virtual Layer from the TOC, just as it would for a normal layer in a secured map service.
- KML / KMZ as a layer in ServerConfig (prototype)
- Handling unsupported KML/Import KML Enhancement
 - Prior release enabled users to load KML files; with this release the error handling is improved when the application is unable to correctly read the KML file
 - Functionality works with KML up to version 2.2 as long as the KML is properly constructed. Supported: multiple layers, polygon structures, paths, points, graphics, and map tips.

- MSMV's TOC rework
 - The Table of Contents in each of the applications has been modified to improve the organization of data layers into a more intuitive and user-friendly order and to be consistent across PDC-hosted instantiations of the application (EMOPS, AHDSS, ATLAS).
- New/Improved Content
 - Global airports (removed tiny airports to reduce size)
 - Global seaports (new layer with tiny seaports removed to reduce size)
 - Hi fire response zones (reworked symbology)
 - Hi reserves (reworked symbology)
 - Hi parks (reworked symbology)
 - Shakemap MMI (added roman numeric values as a new field)
 - HI Department of Health, Adult Residential Care Homes (ARCH) (new layer)
 - PDC Historical Hazards (will be adding 2009 data, somehow it was removed from test and prod)
 - HAM radio repeaters (new)
 - Tsunami runups – Global
 - Tropical Cyclone Layers
 - Potential Track Area – 3 and 5 day cones has been combined using virtual layers functionality
 - Storm Positions – previous, current, and forecast have been combined into a single layer
 - Segments – previous and forecast have been combined
 - Winds – current and forecast have been combined
 - Map Tips Re-Configuration
 - River Gauge Inflow Observations (Pakistan)
 - WHO Health Facilities (Pakistan)
 - Bridges (Pakistan)
 - Cities
 - Amateur Radio Repeaters
 - Outdoor Warning Sirens
 - Historical EQ
 - Tsunami Events
 - Tsunami Runups
 - Volcanic Eruptions
 - Global METAR Sites
 - Sea Level Stations
 - H5N1 Human Cases
 - H5N1 Bird Cases
 - Int'l Charter Activations
 - GLIDE Events
 - MODIS Hotspots
 - Active Volcanoes
 - Recent EQ
 - Storm Positions
 - PDC Integrated Hazards

4.0.2: 25-June-2010

- Improved display of some line layers to use features rather than an image
 - e.g. Tectonic Plate Boundaries; can also identify these layers
- Improved mouse wheel scrolling in palettes
 - Using fixed line scrolling to improve the speed

- Improved long product display in H&P palette
 - Long folder product names are now shown in a mouse-over tip
- Improved Hazard name display on tabs in H&P palette
 - The Hazard name is displayed in a mouse-over tip
- Improved Hazard tab performance when adding/editing Products
 - The Hazard tab is no longer closing when performing Product actions
- Improved H&P palette to denote a "new" or "updated" Hazard with a star
 - Gold star represents a “new” Hazard, silver is an “updated” Hazard
- Improved consistency on some Hazard actions
 - e.g. The Hazard and Product listing now both say “recenter on Hazard”
- Improved folder selection when creating/editing a Product
 - Folder names are sorted alphabetically
- Resolved “View in Fullscreen” button not working on Products
 - The “View in Fullscreen” button allows fullscreen image Product viewing
- Improved Hazard and Product performance display in H&P palette
 - Streamlined service calls to a minimum
- Resolved Product display discrepancy
 - Restricted Products are now visible in the H&P palette
 - The user must still have appropriate permission to view restricted Products
- Resolved BMP Product display discrepancy
 - BMP (bitmap) Products are now visible in the H&P palette
- Resolved user added Product edit screen discrepancy
 - User added Products can once again be edited
- Improved map layer draw order
 - An incorrect sorting was used to overlay layers on the map
- Improved user notification for unsupported KML
 - Message dialog shown when unsupported KML is loaded

4.0.1: 14-May-2010

- Improved H&P palette to denote a "new" or "updated" Hazard with a star
 - Mouse-over the star to determine whether “new” or “updated”
- Improved long Hazard and Product name truncation and display
 - Mouse-over the long names to see the full text
- Improved Product ordering based on last update date
 - Easier to distinguish newer Products from older ones
- Improved Hazard name display on H&P tabs
 - Using severity and type icons plus a portion of the Hazard name
- Improved Product editing usability
 - No longer need to resupply a file to edit the name or comments
 - If a Product is in a folder, that folder is selected
- Improved metadata abstract display
 - Now adds hyperlink support to other data resources
- Improved KML usability when adding new feed
 - Prior KML data is no longer left on the map
- Improved palette scrolling
 - Scrollbar easier to “grab” and slide up/down or left/right
- Improved visibility of Live Cameras
 - Icon easier to see on imagery layers
- Improved Hazard Map Tips display

- Hazard name matches; no longer all lowercase
 - Most cryptic attributes removed
- Resolved print tool printing blank map
 - Using the print tool will print just the map, no palettes
- Other improvements to the product's quality, reliability, ease of use and performance See "Recent Changes" below for complete details.

4.0: 23-April-2010

- PDC Hazards and Products integrated into the map viewer as a palette
- Added a Day/Night indicator layer showing the current status for the world
- Added Live Cameras layer
 - View metadata to see cities for which cameras are available
- Added option on Table of Contents palette to add KML
 - Can either be a local KML or via an URL
- Better display of polygon data (e.g. tropical cyclone cone of uncertainty)
 - Uses WFS instead of WMS to render
- Added drawing/sketching capabilities
 - Draw dots/lines/polygons; change thickness and color
- Added Google Imagery, Street, Hybrid, and Terrain support
- Added scale threshold support to improve performance on large datasets
- PDC dynamic data re-requested on timed intervals
 - A full viewer reload isn't needed to see new data

CHANGES INCLUDED IN THIS VERSION

Note: Some issue titles may be cryptic or technical; they are presented here for archival and informational purposes. Additional information can be accessed by reviewing the MANTIS case.

MANTIS #	Description	Status	Comments
630	Landcover legend classification is incorrect	Resolved	Corrected legend swatch
632	Storm track layer date display could be better	OBE	Consolidated storm track layers, made changes to serverconfig
684	Tropical Cyclone Coverage Area - No Metadata	OBE	Layer removed
685	Global Metar sites look too similar to cities	Resolved	Changed symbology to blue dots
686	World Detailed Coastlines legend and feature color do not match	Resolved	They match now
687	HI Doppler Radar needs "DBZ" unit description	Resolved	Added "DBZ" to legend swatch
688	HI Wetlands Legend swatch missing	Resolved	Added legend swatch
689	Parks and Reserves have erroneous legend swatches	Resolved	Corrected legend swatches
798	WFS / Scale Thresholds / SLD always requesting global extent	SW Improved	When at a near global extent there will be multiple requests when changing extents. At large scale, there is only one request
823	Product security difficult to use	SW Improved	Redesigned GUI delivered with 4.1
836	Hazard/Product create/edit success messages have a scary ID	Resolved	No more scary messages
863	Timeout for requesting layer data	SW Improved	Request manager enhanced to notify user when requested layers are unavailable. User has the option to Retry or to Turn off Layer. Status indicator may continue to spin until the request queue is cleared.
891	Handling MSMV unsupported KML	SW Improved	Error handling has been improved.
893	Some updated Hazards not getting the "update" star identifier	Resolved	This was a result of some bad data which has been fixed
911	Drop down select behavior	SW Improved	Behavior of application has been improved.
912	Drop down select scrolling	SW Improved	Behavior of application has been improved.
947	Product listing for Hazards several years old not displaying	Resolved	This was a result of some bad data which has been fixed
948	Calendar on Hazard search UI can stop working under certain conditions	Resolved	Defect
1010	Name active field on create product tab	Resolved	Refine design for usability
1047	Mouse Over maptips for PDC Active Hazards/Integrated Hazards not functioning	Resolved	Defect
1053	Palette contents shifting when using mouse click to move scroll bar to the right	Resolved	Defect

1060	KML URL and File Upload maptips display in upper left corner of web browser	Resolved	Defect
1066	First legend item per layer missing	Resolved	Defect
1074	Fields displayed with maptips do not display with attributes	Resolved	Defect
1107	MSMV's TOC rework	Content Enhancement	See "What's New" section.
1111	Better App ID Handling when requesting Hazards	SW Improved	Performance
1112	KML URL and File Upload: maptips	SW Improved	See "What's New" section.
1113	KML image feature draw order	Resolved	Defect
1114	Unable to add product to hazards	Resolved	Defect
1130	H&P palette repeated scrolling	Resolved	Defect
1131	Tooltip Name Consistency	SW Improved	Usability
1133	Initial H&P sort on load is not by update date descending	Resolved	Defect
1139	Incorrect WFS/WMS requests with similarly named layers.	Resolved	Defect
1142	WFS Features moving positions as user pans map.	Resolved	Defect
1143	Dead zone appears around center cross-hair	Resolved	Defect
1144	Editing a product with security doesn't list orgs in the allowed list	Resolved	Defect
1150	Point picker mode cannot be activated when creating/editing a hazard	Resolved	Defect
1152	Product type display when editing a product looks "interactable"	Resolved	Usability
1153	CNBC live palette suddenly started playing; palette not active	Resolved	Defect
1161	When editing a product, URL text box displayed for all types	Resolved	Defect
1168	Configured kml blocks imported kml from drawing	Resolved	Defect

KNOWN PROBLEMS AND WORKAROUNDS

Note: Some issues may be cryptic or technical; they are presented here for archival and informational purposes. See MANTIS for more information.

MANTIS	Description	Workaround
641	Rasters blurry/odd lines/missing parts	None
690	Shaded Relief - Molokai/Kahoolawe have different draw thresholds	None
819	Some file product edits fail	None; unable to replicate since May. Will close case
839	Inconsistent results in displaying restricted and hidden products in product list tab	Should be resolved with 4.1; as of build 44, Product Restriction should be working to specification
853	Hawaii Met Data not displaying at smaller scales	Unclear what is causing problem; follow up after 4.1
898	Scary timestamp number shown on IE header	None; sometimes IE does its own thing
903	A lot of opened tabs in H&P palette is tough to navigate	Close tabs when no longer needed
941	Google layers may have transparency artifacts when zooming out	Turn the layer off then back on after adjusting transparency and zooming out
949	Newly added Products not immediately visible in the Product list	Close and re-open the Product list to view new Products
1219	TOC: The mousetip that appears when the mouse is over the zoom-(in/out) icon in the TOC persists until the folder in the TOC that contains that layer is closed or the TOC is switched to list view.	Enter a character in the keyword search box
TBD	Bookmarks: When using the bookmark tool, the other tools are disabled. While this is normal behavior for the application, usability would probably be enhanced if the pan/re-center tool is functional when bookmarks are engaged.	Wait for feedback from users once product is released.
TBD	Bookmarks: Must delete start-up bookmark in order to create a new one.	Usability. Wait for feedback from users once product is released.
TBD	Bookmarks: When using the email function with Internet Explorer, the Bookmark ID # is stripped out.	This is a defect to be addressed either pre-release or in a point-release. Workaround is to delete the link from the email and paste the URL that is already saved on the clipboard into the email (Ctrl V).
TBD	Cluster View: Zoom from within the Cluster focus box and Zoom Back on the tool bar do not work together.	No workaround at this time; user may get undesired results.
TBD	Cluster View: Zoom from within the Cluster focus box sometimes zooms in a little too far; image is fuzzy.	Use the mouse wheel or navigation tool to zoom out slightly.
TBD	Cluster View: Difficult to engage the "Zoom To This Extent" button in the focus box when map tips pop up.	Careful positioning of the mouse to avoid point features does not engage the maptips.

UPCOMING FEATURES

- User profiles
- Incident filtering
- Re-center map to user defined lat/lon
- Measure tool
- Enhance drawing capabilities
- Enhance gazetteer
- Improved KML support
- Internationalization
- Ability to configure native ArcGIS Server map services
- Series Animation
- Geocoded Products

Additional requests are logged continuously and will be reviewed and prioritized at the next Project Review Board meeting