

RiskMeter eNewsletter

August 2004

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Articles of Interest

Here are a few pertinent articles related to weather risk and insurance that may be of interest...

(Disaster News Network) – Tropical Storm Bonnie could reach the Florida panhandle near Panama City on Thursday, according to the National Hurricane Center, and Tropical Storm Charley could reach the Gulf by this weekend.

<http://www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2326>

(Disaster News Network) – A 300-acre wildfire in the eastern Cascade foothills in Washington state has burned three homes, all in Kittitas County. At least 200 additional homes - most seasonal cabins - in that area were evacuated.

<http://www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2316>

(Disaster News Network) – In a flood that crept quietly into the news, at least 140 homes were damaged in Greenville County, S.C., last week, and a potential technological disaster lurks as well. <http://www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2321>

New Search Features!

Although we continually update our data and have implemented new geocoding technology, there maybe instances where you won't be able to locate a property. In order to make it easier for you to lookup that hard to find address, we've added the following tabs to the search by address page: Intersection, Lat/Long, Address, Township/Section and Place Name. These additional search features will make it easier for you to find new or rural addresses. If you have any questions, please contact Maria Francis at 617.737.4444 or mfrancis@cdsys.com

Nevada Slope/Elevation/Aspect Report Just Added!

You can now get a slope/aspect/elevation report for Nevada. In addition to returning the slope, aspect and elevation for the location, you will now get the minimum, maximum and average slope and elevation within a radius of 250'. This will alert you if the location is very close to a steep area. Currently, this report is only available for CA and NV, but we will be adding more states in the future. If there is a state you would like to add, or if you have any questions, please contact your account executive at 617.737.4444.

Castle Cost Replacement Integrated into the RiskMeter Online

With more and more insurance companies focusing on improving underwriting results, we wanted to offer a solution that would help you to streamline your underwriting process. We are proud to announce that we have integrated Castle's RapidCalc Cost Tool into the RiskMeter Online. Benefits of this partnership include:

- ◆ **Elimination of duplicate data entry** – Since this program is fully integrated, RiskMeter Online users can get geographic risk reports and property valuations without duplicate data entry
- ◆ **One Account/One Bill** – RiskMeter Online users will receive one bill, which contains the number of geographic risk reports and property valuations
- ◆ **One Contact Person** – If someone has a question about billing or how the account is set up, RiskMeter Online users just need to speak with their account executive

To learn more about this feature, please contact Dan Munson at 617.737.4444 or dmunson@cdsys.com

OR and GA Distance to Fire Station Reports Coming Soon!

Currently, you can get Distance to Fire Station reports for CA, CT, FL, MA, MS and RI. Within the next few weeks you will be able to get reports for Oregon and Georgia. We will continue to add more states until we meet our goal of providing nationwide coverage. We want your feedback to see which states we should add next! If there is a state you would like to see us add, please contact Jamie Munson at 860.854.6125 or jmunson@cdsys.com.

This new report will give you the *driving distance to the closest 3 responding fire stations*, as well as the staffing (professional, volunteer, or a combination). This report uses routing technology to determine the distance to the stations (This is not a guesstimate!).

Additionally, if you are using the distance to fire station feature, and notice that we've missed a fire station, let us know. We need to know the address (as best as you can tell us), as well as if the station is volunteer or professionally staffed. We will then add the station to the database ASAP. Our goal is to have the most complete list possible. You can help! Please contact Jamie Munson at jmunson@cdsys.com or 860.854.6125 with info. Thanks in advance for your support!

If you would like to test the distance to fire station report, contact CDS at 617.737.4444.

Sinkhole Clearing House

CDS is proud to announce that it has added additional carriers to its sinkhole clearing house. In an effort to provide the most comprehensive sinkhole database for Florida, CDS is coordinating a sinkhole clearing house for carriers. By sharing sinkhole information, CDS believes this will allow carriers to have the most accurate picture of sinkhole activity in FL.

If you're not familiar with this program, here's how it works. Insurers that submit reported sinkholes will have access to an *exclusive* database that is comprised of our data and other carriers' data. Taking part in this program is a win-win situation, because it will improve your organizations underwriting results. To find out more about this program, contact Jamie Munson at 860.854.6125 or jmunson@cdsys.com

Hot Tip: Manual Placement

When you use a nearby address or when the subject is not in the exact place it should be, you can use the manual placement tool (located between zoom out and distance buttons) to move the subject into the correct place. Simply click the manual placement radio button, and then left click on the digital or aerial map where you want to relocate the subject. You will only need to click once, and within a few seconds the map will redraw itself. Using the manual placement feature doesn't simply move the subject property. The RiskMeter automatically re-runs all of the selected reports. This gives you a high level of accuracy for any report, especially flood and brush where it really matters.

Tip No 2: If you zoom in, you can get a more accurate manual placement. If you zoom out, you can manually place the subject a greater distance away from the original placement.

If you have any questions, please contact Maria Francis at 617.737.4444 or mfrancis@cdsys.com

Test Drive Any Risk Report for One Month FREE!

Would you like the opportunity to evaluate any one of our risk reports without obligation? You can now! For a limited time you will be able to test-drive any RiskMeter Online report for FREE! Take advantage of this exceptional opportunity to see how a particular risk report can benefit your organization. To add a FREE, one-month risk report to your account, please call 617.737.4444.

FREE Online Training Schedule!

In order to help you utilize the RiskMeter Online more effectively, we are now offering FREE Online training. This is a great way for your organization to have its most pressing questions answered, learn about reading various risk reports and how to utilize cutting-edge features, such as: **Birdseye Geocoding**, **One-Click Ruler** and **Manual Placement**. To register for an upcoming Webcast, click on one of the links below or for more information, contact Maria Francis at 617.737.4444 or mfrancis@cdsys.com

Open Training

Wednesday, August 18, 2004

1-2pm (EDT)

<https://cdsys.webex.com>

Castle Cost Replacement

Thursday, August 19, 2004

1-2pm (EDT)

<https://cdsys.webex.com>

Integrating with the RiskMeter Online

Wednesday, September 1, 2004

1-2pm (EDT)

<https://cdsys.webex.com>

Upcoming Events

CDS will be exhibiting at the following upcoming events. Whether you're a customer or prospect, we'd love to meet with you onsite at these exceptional events! Feel free to stop by our booth, or if you wish to schedule an appointment, please refer to the contact information below.

Agents Alliance

September 8-12, 2004 * Indian Wells, CA

Contact: Brad Sherwin, 617.737.4444 or bsherwin@cdsys.com

Napslo Annual Meeting

September 19-23, 2004 * Orlando, FL

Contact: Brad Sherwin, 617.737.4444 or bsherwin@cdsys.com

Welcome to Our Newest Customers**Carriers**

Aspen Specialty

MGAs

M. J. Hall

SJA Agency

Agents

A.W.L. Zuniga Insurance Services

Above and Beyond Insurance

Acordia of Minnesota

Arthur J Gallagher (Glendale)

Arthur J Gallagher (Spring)

Boord Insurance

Boyd Insurance & Investment Services

Brandt Insurance (ISU Insurance Svcs)

C.M. Meiers Co., Inc.

California Special Services

Center West Ins

Central Insurance

Dejulio & Keller, Inc. - DBA - Class Act Ins. Svcs.

Elkins Jones Insurance Agency

FIA Insurance Services, Inc.

Gatewood Insurance Agency Inc.

Gulf Coast Insurance

Hilliard Agency Insurance Brokers Inc.

Huggins/Dreckman Insurance
Invensure Insurance Brokers
ISU Southwestern
ISU Valley Insurance Services, Inc.
Jackson Insurance Services
John Campbell Ins
Keen Battle Mead & Company
Ken May Insurance Services
Kite Insurance
Lanier Upshaw
Larry Tencer Ins
Lighthouse Insurance
Loomis Insurance
LPL Insurance
McHugh Insurance Agency
Ogilvy Hill
Palmer & Cay (NY)
Phillip B. White Co. Inc.
Poms & Associates
Ray Insurance & Financial Services Inc.
Royalty Financial & Insurance
Satterfield Land Surveyors P.A.
Slocum Insurance Agency
Sunkist Valley Insurance
Swett & Crawford (Miami)
Tegner-Miller Ins
Thomas Insurance Agency
Tri-Valley Insurance
Valley West Insurance
Wright Insurance

Request a Hard Copy of the RiskMeter Newsletter!

Having a hard time managing your inbox? You can now receive the RiskMeter eNewsletter via regular mail. To get the latest issue of the RiskMeter newsletter delivered to your office (when it becomes available), please email Paul Ptashnick at: pptashnick@cdsys.com

RiskMeter Online Contacts

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Questions? Comments?

If you would like more information on anything in this newsletter, please contact Dan Munson, VP of Marketing & Sales at: 617.737.4444 or dmunson@cdsys.com

Help a Friend or Colleague

Please forward this free newsletter to friend or colleague who might benefit from it. We only ask that you send the entire newsletter. Thanks!

Unsubscribe

*To be removed from our mailing list, please email pptashnick@cdsys.com and type REMOVE in the subject line.

Thank you for Reading the RiskMeter eNewsletter!