



23 Hours of Saving Lives

During a 23-hour period beginning 5pm Eastern time, March 7, 2009, a series of tornadoes – moving at interstate highway speeds – sped across America’s heartland.

BNSF Railway, Abbyville, Kansas, March 7, 5:02pm:

AccuWeather’s SkyGuard® issues a tornado warning for BNSF Railway for a developing tornado near their track. BNSF wants to keep trains out of the path of tornadoes to insure the safety of its crews and prevent costly derailments. Governmental warnings were not issued until 5:16pm and then only after a visual report of a funnel cloud was received. SkyGuard warnings gave BNSF 14 extra minutes to keep its trains safe.

Kansas City area, March 7, 11:08pm:

While government warnings called for 60 mph winds, AccuWeather informed their clients that they did not expect dangerous winds to occur. The peak wind recorded in the Kansas City area was 38 mph. SkyGuard saved clients valuable dollars by preventing unnecessary shutdowns and false alarms.

CSX Railroad, Oaktown, Indiana, March 8, 2:38pm:

AccuWeather issues a tornado warning for CSX Railroad. At 3pm, a tornado caused damage in the immediate area of the trainless track.

General Motors, Bedford, Indiana, March 8, 3:26pm:

At 3:26pm, we issued a tornado warning for the Bedford Plant as the storm bore down on the area at a speed of 70 mph! Safety supervisors sheltered everyone at the plant. The

tornado passed across the plant at 3:45. Government sources did not issue a warning until 3:37pm, after spotters first reported a tornado. Everyone at the General Motors plant was safe.

Four stories over twenty-three hours and 600 miles. While these examples may seem incredible, they are what AccuWeather clients have come to expect. SkyGuard combines the latest and best science with state-of-the-art technology so our clients throughout North America operate more safely and profitably.



Tornado debris at the General Motors Plant.
Photo courtesy of National Weather Service



Contact us today at: 814.235.8600 or salesmail@accuweather.com
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