

## Preparing Manufacturing and Distribution Sites for Major Weather Events

### Confirm that your emergency action plan addresses the coming weather event.

If your site safety or emergency action plan specifies what action to take when weather events arrive (i.e. what to do when a snow or ice warning issued) then your site is prepared to respond even if your core safety team is away on vacation or at a conference.

### Test your communication plan and systems.

Communications is routinely highlighted as an area of improvement in incident after action reports. Plans should be clear, easy to follow, and frequently tested to ensure that you can reach all employees, contractors, and guests during an emergency. Make sure to account for loud areas within your facility, areas where cell phone usage is prohibited, and guests who may not be familiar with your plan.

### Identify at least three redundant/back-up systems to receive weather warnings.

Hazardous weather events may damage the systems that support the way you primarily receive weather warnings. Cable connections can be damaged, internet can go down, and cell phones run out of batteries, so make sure you have at least three ways to receive critical weather alerts. AccuWeather provides SkyGuard® Warnings through diverse delivery channels (mobile app, SMS, email, etc.) to adhere to this best practice. Additionally, if desired, SkyGuard® Warnings offer a unique acknowledgment feature to make sure a warning was received and is being actioned.

### Configure your weather alerts to include your response plan.

Research informs us that we often need to hear the same warning message from three different sources to motivate our response. By including your response plan inside of the warning message, you'll enable your employees and contractors to clearly understand what actions are expected from them during a weather emergency. Our SkyGuard® Warning service enables you to embed your site specific severe weather procedures within text, email, and mobile application notifications.

### Disseminate your plan to your employees before the event.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration requires that your emergency action plan be easily accessible for all employees. Create a simplified version of the plan and share it with your employees so that everyone understands how and when to respond to a weather emergency.

### Ensure you have access to live consultations from expert meteorologists.

When storms are poised to strike your site at shift change or when two operational teams are debating an hourly forecast, access to a meteorologist will help you optimize safety and efficient operations. The SkyGuard® Warning service will provide you with 24/7 phone call consultations with a meteorologist so that you can make challenging decisions quickly, supported by expert analysis.