



ALERT2 Source Address Management System (SAMS) Request for Support Funding

The ALERT2 protocol is continuing to gain momentum as the successor to the ALERT protocol, which has served many users well since its inception in the early 1970's. Early adoption of ALERT2 in Colorado, Kansas and Texas has demonstrated that full implementation will remedy many problems experienced in recent years due to system growth. One critical issue that has been resolved is the loss of valuable data that occurs during storm events due to radio traffic contention. Another is the limited capacity of ALERT. ALERT2 can support 65,000 complete sites compared to 8,000 individual sensors for ALERT.

As real-time data collection needs continue to rise and as new communities choose to undertake this effective low-cost means of managing flood risk, the need for oversight and coordination of addressing assignments is increasingly vital. To avoid potential conflicts among systems, ALERT2 addresses must be assigned in a sustainable way that ensures uniqueness throughout the country.

The ALERT2 Technical Working Group (TWG) was established by the National Hydrologic Warning Council (NHWC) to help develop the ALERT2 protocol and assure the objectives of the ALERT user community are achieved. To deal with addressing concerns, the TWG has established a simple [web-based application](#) through which system owners request addresses for specific sites. The application then issues a unique Source Address and stores it, along with its associated Agency and Site Name in its database. This automated process requires minimal administrative oversight while insuring that assigned addresses are not duplicated. No fees are charged for registering or for using the Source Address Management System (SAMS). As directed by the NHWC, the TWG is initially responsible for developing and managing the SAMS.

As more agencies are transitioning to ALERT2, maintaining SAMS is important to prevent addressing conflicts. The NHWC is requesting all agencies with flood ALERT systems provide funding to support the SAMS registry. The funds received will be used by NHWC for SAMS for maintenance, upgrades and associated services. The proposed funding levels are listed in the following table:

| Number of ALERT Sites | Cost |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| 10 or less | \$100 |
| between 10 & 50 | \$250 |
| 50 or more | \$500 |

By sharing these ongoing costs, participating agencies will avoid costly efforts required to resolve the problems created by inadvertent address assignment conflicts.

Please make checks payable to: **National Hydrologic Warning Council SAMS**
 Mailing address: **NHWC Source Address Management System Fund**
2480 West 26th Avenue, Suite 156-B Denver, CO 80211

Or pay by [credit card](#).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the NHWC ALERT2 Technical Working Group Chair David Haynes at (828) 683-1566 or email david.haynes@distinctiveafwsdesigns.com