

Illinois Emergency Management Agency's Virtual Business Emergency Operations Center (vBEOC) Application

Prototype Overview



vBEOC Overview

- A virtual public/private sector portal allowing for-profit and not-for-profit private entities to receive and provide critical situational awareness information before, during, or after disasters.
- Facilitates private sector and government responder cooperation to promote mutual resiliency.
- Information includes road closures, utility service status, ongoing response actions, weather, analysis, and more.
- Includes all capabilities of the nationally-deployed Virtual Community Platform, which provides a single stage for emergency management communication, collaboration, community, and response actions.



Virtual Community Platform (onVCP) Overview

- Supports FEMA's Virtual Joint Planning Office (VJPO)
 - 4,000+ users
 - 700+ unique organizations
- Platform design promotes daily collaboration, which increases user proficiency during emergencies.



vBEOC Dashboard Configures Situational Awareness Tools

- Pages can be chosen from pre-defined layouts or created dynamically.
- Information displays easily dragged from gallery onto pages.



IEMA's Initiative Contains VCP Apps and vBEOC Displays

Standard VCP Apps:

- Discussion Board
- Alerts
- Calendars
- Surveys
- Document Center
- Tasks
- Photo Gallery
- Links
- Announce
- Contacts
- Home/News

vBEOC Information Displays (GIS, HTML, RSS, onVCP app list, etc.):

- Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Road Closure Map
- Road Closures Reported by Users
- Weather
- Wal-Mart Store Closure Map
- Wal-Mart Store Closure Gauge
- Ameren Outage Map
- Utility Outages Reported by Users
- Flood Zone Map
- Public Information – Social Media
- User-customizable displays and tools



Interface Builds New Pages Quickly

1. Create new page and select page layout:



2. Drag desired information displays into place:



3. Configure custom settings:

Main Map		Options ▼
Web Map ID	<input type="text" value="b1d3ec679416405ab87f22def644"/>	
GCS Extent	<input type="text" value="-94.8947,37.0055,-82.8098,41.85"/>	
Height	<input type="text" value="600"/>	
Display Zoom	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Display Slider	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Display ScaleBar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Display Legend	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	



vBEOC Joins Other “Apps” on VCP

- VCP is a scalable, extensible platform that supports rapid, inexpensive app development.
- Partners can create custom apps and app collections for their users.
- Entire user community can share progress.



vBEOC Illustrations Demonstrate Features

- vBEOC Page Features Enable Users to Configure Information Displays
- Selected vBEOC Pages Show Information Display Groupings:
 - IEMA
 - Public Information – Social Media
 - Flood
 - Transportation
 - Analysis
 - Utilities
 - Harrisburg Tornado
- Key VCP Features Make Important Controls Easy:
 - User Access and Group Membership
 - User Permission and Content Control



vBEOC Page Features

Create multi-purpose pages.

Select from multi page layouts.

Drag 'n' drop app gallery for placing displays onto page layout.

The screenshot displays the vBEOC web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the IEMA logo and various menu items. Below this is an 'App Panel' containing a grid of application icons such as 'Assess Contacts', 'Assess Logo', 'Assess Outage Report', 'AVGIS Outline', and several 'Discuss' buttons for different topics like 'Disaster Planning', 'Operational Analysis', 'Tornado', and 'Transportation'. The main content area is divided into several sections: a weather forecast for Springfield, IL; a large map of the central United States with numerous orange circular markers; a 'Flood Zones' map; and a 'vBEOC News' section with text updates. A right-hand sidebar contains a 'Virtual Business-Emergency Operation Center' section with 'Admin' and 'My Pages' buttons.

Any information display can be dragged to a new area in page layout. The main column activates additional GIS layer features.

vBEOC administrative access and personal "My Pages."

Each information display can be adjusted from "settings" option.

IEMA Page

- Information displays : Multi-layer map of Wal-Mart Store Closures & IDOT Road Closures, Weather Forecast, Weather Map, IEMA News, Flood Zones.

The screenshot displays the IEMA (Illinois Emergency Management Agency) website dashboard. The main content area is dominated by a large map of Illinois and surrounding states, overlaid with numerous orange circular icons representing store closures. The dashboard includes several key sections:

- Header:** IEMA logo and navigation menu (Public Information, Flood, Transportation, Analysis, etc.).
- Weather Forecast:** A panel for Springfield, IL, showing a forecast for Wednesday through Saturday with icons for cloudy, sunny, and chance of showers, along with high and low temperature ranges.
- Weather Map:** A smaller map showing regional weather patterns.
- Main Map:** A large map of the central US with orange icons indicating store closures across Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio.
- IEMA News:** A list of recent news items, including announcements about federal grants and flood recovery efforts.
- Walmart Stores:** A smaller map showing a dense cluster of orange icons representing Walmart store locations.
- Flood Zones:** A map showing areas designated as flood zones.
- App Panel:** A vertical sidebar on the right containing quick links to News, Document Center, Calendar, Contacts, Emergency Operations Center, Photo Gallery, Links, Surveys, and Announcements.

Virtual Business Emergency Operations Center Supports Private-Public Partnerships

- Underlying platform is scalable and extensible.
- vBEOC interface allows rapid user creation of information displays.
- Situational awareness of such information as road closures, utility outages, and disaster area store closures can support private sector and government responder cooperation to promote mutual resiliency.

