

## Software - Internet Public Alerting System

**The Client:** Industry Canada

**Client Challenge:** Emergency Management officials typically rely on TV, Radio and Sirens to alert the public in times of emergency. Internet-based emergency notification has emerged as an important means to reach the public during emergencies. Email and text-messaging notifications are easily spoofed and are unreliable means of sending official public alerts. The client required a secure Internet-based alerting system that could support mass notification.

**Outcome:** Solana developed the IPAS system and deployed it in three Canadian provinces during three rounds of field trials over a 15 month period. The trials involved municipal officials, police, emergency management, fire departments and a number of other municipal/provincial/federal departments and agencies.

**Solution:** The work for Industry Canada involved background research into the area of Internet based disaster alerting and the development of a scalable, secure approach to disaster notification via the Internet. A software system was developed that achieved these goals and underwent three successful rounds of field trials with 8 municipalities across Canada. This distributed client server system was developed from the ground-up utilizing an iterative software development methodology.