



FEMA



The Mapping Information Platform (MIP) Release 4.1 (R4.1)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

As part of its Flood Map Modernization (Map Mod) program, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) developed the Mapping Information Platform (MIP). The MIP is a state-of-the-art, workflow-based system and Web portal that contains a variety of information and tools used for the management, production, extraction and sharing of flood hazard data.

In March 2009, FEMA consolidated the existing technology infrastructure created during Map Mod, including the MIP, under one Customer and Data Services (CDS) contract to support its Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP) program.

In an effort to update the current system infrastructure, MIP Release 4.1 (R4.1) implemented a new workflow engine server for Amendments, Revisions and Studies. This change provides a solid foundation that will support requirements needed for the rollout of Risk MAP projects and products.

Below is a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) about Release 4.1:

1. What is the MIP?

The MIP is an online tool that provides for the management, production, extraction and sharing of flood hazard data. It is accessible at <https://hazards.fema.gov>. The MIP functions as a project management and accountability tool by providing FEMA with Earned Value (EV) and mapping project status for accurate reporting to Congress and stakeholders. It also offers FEMA, mapping contractors and the general public instant access to flood map status reports. The MIP workflows standardize and facilitate complex map production, amendments and revisions processes, which help to ensure consistent and user-identifiable products. The MIP also includes a content and data management application that captures engineering and mapping data artifacts, such as base maps and topographic data, as well as provide long-term online access and storage.

2. What is R4.1?

R4.1 focused on upgrading the back-end workflow processing of Amendments, Revisions and Studies. No changes were made to the templates or the workflow functionality itself. This transition prepares the MIP for the eventual retirement of the existing workflow engine server. The strategy, planning, development and execution for the transition of in-flight projects and the

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retirement of the current workflow engine server were not part of the R4.1 scope and will be handled as a separate and distinct project.

3. What is the timeline for R4.1?

R4.1 was successfully deployed during the weekend of August 26, 2011. The MIP was available as of 3:30pm Eastern on Sunday, August 28, 2011.

4. How does R4.1 impact me?

In order to provide uninterrupted workflow functionality, both the old and new workflow engine servers are running parallel with each other. This resulted in temporary changes to the MIP Workbench Home page and the Process Admin (PA) Home page.

5. What were the changes?

A new tab has been added to the MIP Workbench Home page. All projects that are created after August 26, 2011, reside on the standard "Work Items" tab. All projects that were created before August 27, 2011, reside on the new "Work Items - Legacy" tab. A case locator function has been added to the Workbench Home page to allow users to search for projects and identify which tab their projects are located on. Users can then choose to be automatically directed to the appropriate tab upon locating the project. No changes were made to the functionality of the projects or the workflows.

A new tab has been added to the PA Home page. All projects that are created after August 26, 2011, reside on the standard "Process Admin" tab. All projects that were created before August 27, 2011, reside on the new "Process Admin - Legacy" tab. Users can enter criteria into the "Project Search Home" fields to locate items by Case Number, Project Type, Status, Region and/or Organization. Once the search results are returned, users may select the desired "Case Number" link to be automatically directed to the appropriate tab where the project resides. No changes were made to any subsequent activities.

6. What will happen to my projects during R4.1?

The implementation of R4.1 does not affect currently existing or new projects. The previous versions of this FAQs and guidance documents stated that the only instance when projects will be moved from the "Work Items – Legacy" tab to the standard "Work Items" tab is when projects must be restarted by MIP Help. **This mechanism has not been implemented. Therefore, if projects require a manual restart, the projects will continue to reside on the same tab they were found prior to the restart. The ticket response from MIP Help will confirm this.**

7. What will happen to my projects that are currently "on hold"?

Projects that are placed on and off hold will continue to reside on the same tab they were found before the status was changed.

8. What will happen to my projects after R4.1 has been deployed?

Within at least 6 to 8 months after R4.1 has been deployed, an effort will be initiated to transition small groups of projects from the old workflow engine server to the new workflow engine server. The Regions and all potential owners

of project activities will be notified prior to the transition of projects. Once all projects have been transitioned to the new workflow engine server, the “Work Items – Legacy” tab will be removed, thus returning the MIP Workbench Home PA Home page to their original state.

9. Will MARS or Citrix be affected by R4.1?

The implementation of R4.1 will not affect MARS and Citrix.

10. Does the date for when an activity was created affect which tab a project can be found on?

The date for when an activity was initiated does not affect which tab a project resides on. The tab where a project can be found is determined at a project level. It is not determined at the activity/task level. Therefore, if a project was initiated after August 26, 2011, it will reside on the standard “Work Items” and “Process Admin” tabs. If a project was initiated before August 27, 2011, it will reside on the new “Work Items – Legacy” and “Process Admin – Legacy” tabs.

11. Where can I find out more about R4.1?

Additional information about R4.1 can be found online at <https://hazards.fema.gov>. Please contact MIP Help at miphelp@riskmapcds.com with any questions.