DFIRM Verification Tool (DVT) and MIP Metadata Validation Process Update Frequently Asked Questions

Version 2.0, April 17th, 2014

What is the release date for the project?
May 2nd, 2014.

With the release, what FIRM database schemata will DVT verify?
DVT, which previously only checked FIRM databases using the 2003 schema, will verify databases using the 2003, 2011, and 2013 schemata. You can view the details for the 2003, 2011, and 2013 checks in the DVT Rule Set document on MIP User Care.

Will there be any change to the way that DVT verifies FIRM databases using the 2003 schema?
Yes. The validation logic will be updated to reduce the need for DVT bypass requests. Three validation checks will be removed, seven "warning" checks will become "error" checks, four checks will be modified, and ten new checks will be added. You can view the details for the 2003, 2011, and 2013 checks in the DVT Rule Set document on MIP User Care.

Will the DVT Test Submission tool still be available after the release?
Yes.

Does the new DVT accept on shapefiles or geodatabase?
DVT will continue to check only shapefiles.

Are the 2013 standards the latest FEMA guidelines and are they draft or final?
The 2013 FIRM Database and Domain Tables Technical References were finalized in August, 2013.

Will you run DVT the same way as before?
Yes, except while in the "Perform DFIRM DB QA Test Submission" tool and the "Develop DFIRM Database," "Produce Preliminary Map Products," and "Produce Final Map Products" activities, you will need to select which FIRM database schema you would like to use from a new drop-down menu: 2003 FIRM Database Schema, 2011 FIRM Database Schema, or 2013 FIRM Database Schema. Your selection will also determine the metadata profile against which the metadata validation process will run.

Updated FIRM Database Submission Screen with FIRM DB Schema Selection

Updated FIRM Database Test Submission Screen with FIRM DB Schema Selection

What do you do about projects still using the 2003 FIRM Database schema?
You should continue using the same 2003 schema.

Does DVT validate the Version ID values in the database?
No. DVT does not validate the value you enter for the Version ID elements.

What changes to MIP metadata validation in this release?
This release updates metadata validation in MIP activities and the Citrix Metadata Manager to use the 2006 and 2013 FEMA National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) metadata profiles. The MIP will automatically determine which metadata profile to validate against for the following activities:

- Alluvial Fan
- Basemap
- Coastal Study
- Floodplain Mapping
- Hydraulics
- Hydrology
- Survey
- Terrain

The MIP will validate the metadata against 2006 or 2013 profiles based on DVT schema selection for the following activities:

- Develop DFIRM Database
- Produce Preliminary Map Products
- Produce Final Map Products

While in the workflow will you need to select between the 2006 and 2013 metadata profiles?
The system will automatically determine which year to use during validation for all activities except "Develop DFIRM Database," "Produce Preliminary Map Products," and "Produce Final Map Products." In those activities, you will be required to select the FIRM database schema, which in turn specifies which metadata profile to use during validation.
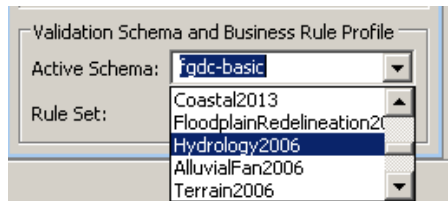
Which metadata profile should you use when submitting FIRM databases using the 2003, 2011, or 2013 schemata?

Use the following table to decide on the appropriate metadata profile. For example, if you are submitting a FIRM database in the 2011 dataset, you will use the 2013 metadata profile.

FIRM Database Schema	Metadata Profile
2003	2006
2011	2013
2013	

Will the Metadata Manager in Citrix also be updated?

Yes. The entire MIP metadata validation process is updated, so the metadata validation within MIP activities and the Metadata Manager in Citrix will be updated to accept metadata based on both the 2006 and 2013 profiles. You can see the addition of the 2013 metadata profiles in the following screenshot of the updated tool in Citrix.

Are the 2006 metadata templates going to be updated as part of this release?

No. The scope of this release does not include any changes to metadata templates or profiles.

Where can you find relevant documentation such as Metadata Profiles and Technical References?

You can find relevant documentation below:
- 2013 Metadata Profiles and sample XML files
- 2006 Metadata Profiles
- 2003 and 2011 FIRM database schemata – Appendix K & L
- 2011 Domain Tables
- 2013 FIRM Database schema (Technical Reference)
- 2013 Domain Tables (Technical Reference)
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Summary of Changes to Metadata Profiles 2006 to 2013
- DVT Rule Set
- Guidance and Tips
- Briefing Slide Deck
- MIP User Care Page
- Knowledge Sharing Site (KSS) – You will need to login with your Risk MAP Portal account. If you don't have an account or forgot your username or password email spadmin@riskmapcds.com

What if I have more questions?

Please send your questions to outreach@riskmapcds.com.