

Tornado Touches Down Near Osyka, Mississippi

WeatherData[®] client Canadian National receives early warning

The Story

On April 6, 2005 morning severe thunderstorms pushed through southern Mississippi. A tornado touched down in between Osyka and Progress, MS, crossing Canadian National (CN) Railroad's track. Fortunately CN received early warning from WeatherData's SkyGuard[®] system. CN was able to proactively prepare for the approaching tornado using the customized track-specific WeatherData tornado warning. WeatherData provided CN over 30 minutes of lead-time before the tornado struck.

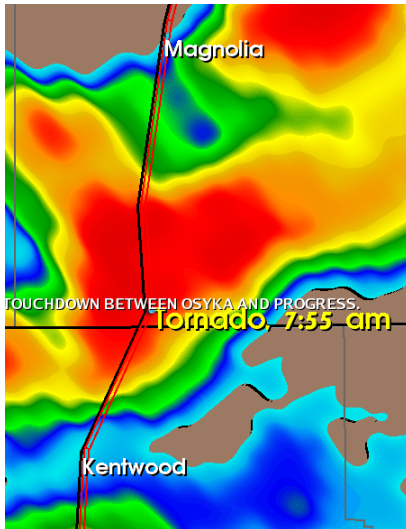
- **7:01 am CDT:** WeatherData first alerts CN that a developing tornado will threaten track. WeatherData issues a customized track-specific tornado warning for CN track in Osyka, valid from 7:15 to 7:45 am.
- **7:42 am:** The severe thunderstorm had slowed down, and had not reached CN track yet, so WeatherData extends the tornado warning until 8:05. Rotation in the thunderstorm remains strong, so the danger of tornadoes persists.
- **7:55 am:** Emergency Management reports a tornado touchdown north of Osyka, between Osyka and Progress. The tornado crosses CN track.

The Results

CN received a **proactive** tornado warning from WeatherData, allowing time to prepare orderly for the event. WeatherData provided well over 30 minutes of lead-time, exceeding our goal of 20 minutes. When possible WeatherData will give clients extra lead-time. WeatherData's **lead-time** and precision can enhance safety before and during inclement weather and ensure quick business continuity after the storm.

For more information please call 316-265-9127 or visit www.weatherdata.com

Put WeatherData to work for you!



WeatherData SelectWarn[®] image of the severe thunderstorms: The tornado report is plotted over Osyka, MS, along with details. CN track is highlighted in red.

"Coupled with our severe weather operating processes, WeatherData's alerts and warnings saved a major derailment and greater damage here!"

Steve Millsap
Assistant Vice President of Structures
Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway

"In May, WeatherData's proactive warning system prompted us to go out and inspect our track, even though the weather did not appear threatening at the time. We found more than 600 feet of track washed out by severe flooding with two trains scheduled to go through the area within the hour. Thanks to WeatherData's team and the SkyGuard[®] system we were able to avoid serious damage to the MNA trains and our equipment."

Thomas Murphy
Manager, ARDC
Rail America