

ShakeAlert Licensed Operators

The ShakeAlert® Earthquake Early Warning system, operated by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), quickly detects significant earthquakes, estimates shaking, and issues ShakeAlert Messages to Licensed Operators. Licensed Operators use this information to deliver alerts to people and trigger automated actions that protect vital systems and infrastructure, potentially seconds before shaking arrives at their location.

A current list of ShakeAlert Licensed Operators is available on the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network website: pnsn.org/pnsn-data-products/earthquake-early-warning/shakealert-LtOs.

Background

Licensed Operators have entered into a license with the USGS which approves them to provide or sell their developed product to end-users. End-users include people who receive these products or services directly (e.g., to their cell phones), as well as organizations that work with a Licensed Operator to implement automated “machine-to-machine” actions. Licensed Operators have met USGS-mandated standards for speed, reliability, and technical performance, including providing appropriate education and training for their end users. They span multiple industries and sectors, and include private for-profit companies, public entities, and nonprofit organizations.

Licensed Operators are integral to the success of the ShakeAlert project. By building systems that deliver ShakeAlert-powered alerts and automate actions, Licensed Operators help save lives, minimize injuries, and reduce earthquake damage to property and infrastructure. They can play a critical role in mitigating immediate earthquake losses, subsequent indirect earthquake economic impacts, and possible ripple effects, or “secondary disasters.” These mitigation efforts can increase a community’s recovery and speedy return to normal status.

Disclaimers

The Pacific Northwest Seismic Network webpage is not the ultimate resource. Visit the Licensed Operator's website for more information about their product and services.

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