



KATWARN

THE WARNING SYSTEM

The Warning and Information System for the Public





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Next Generation Disaster Warning

For more than five years KATWARN has been saving lives in Germany – because a warning is only useful when it is designed to reach affected people anywhere and anytime.

KATWARN informs on a location-based level via networked technology like smartphone app, digital advertising boards in public places, smart home and onboard electronics. But KATWARN does not simply inform people ABOUT an upcoming hazard but also HOW they should act. With locally precise information, people at home, at the office, or on the move are warned individually. This means that only affected persons receive messages, along with suggested actions e.g. by the police or fire departments.

By only informing affected people, KATWARN does not confuse people in safe places and also reduces effects like disaster tourism visits from the unaffected. Moreover, KATWARN adapts to changing lifestyles (e.g. use of media), modern building-related conditions (e.g. insulated windows), and an increasingly mobile society.

Using the KATWARN App

The KATWARN system is best known for its smart phone application. It provides warnings and behavioral advices for the user's current location, as well as for seven freely selectable locations, and offers topic-related safety information. Here's an overview of its additional features and functions:

Warning activity

In the event of a warning, a special alarm will sound on the cell phone with a vibration effect. Symbols, colored graphics, and texts provide hazard information, issued directly by responsible authorities.

Warnings for fellow people

Alerts can be shared at any time via social media, guaranteeing only reliable information is being forwarded.

Warning overview

A general map gives an overview of all current warnings, e.g. when noticing a smoke column in the distance.

Personal test alarm

A personal test alarm, restricted to the individual smart phone, provides a first glimpse of an alert.

Defined target groups

KATWARN allows authorities to define and warn specific target groups, e.g. guests of selected events, like music festivals, that have subscribed to a topic of interest, or internal authority groups to receive non-public security information.

Data security and privacy

KATWARN was implemented with the highest degree of data security and anonymization. Also, no tracking: Each new location overwrites and erases the previous one.

Battery consumption

Due to geo-locating via base stations and WLAN access points (no GPS) KATWARN only uses a small amount of your smartphone battery.

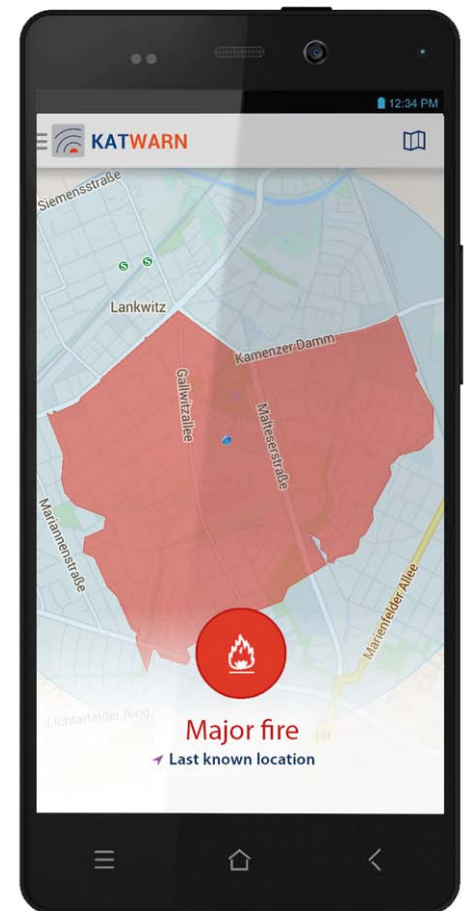
What kind of hazards are warned?

Actually, any kind of hazard!

For the intelligent processing of warning data, it does not matter what danger is threatening the users.

However, as a technical distribution system, KATWARN does not create alerts by itself. So, at the end, it all depends on the responsibility of the connected authorities and authorized organizations on local, state, or federal level, that issue their warnings via KATWARN, e.g. extreme weather, local hazards, or terrorist threats.

Also, industrial companies use KATWARN to provide security to their employees, visitors, and customers on their area of responsibility.



Example of major fire warning

People at the center

Today, many technologies in everyday life are digitally networked and can be linked to KATWARN. In order to further distribute warnings and to provide technical safety measures automatically, KATWARN strives for a networked security, which places people at the center of attention and gives them tangible benefits.

Building Technology

In order to automatically close windows or activate smoke detectors with voice output, the data provided by KATWARN can be processed by new home appliances and smart home applications.

On-board computer

Intelligent vehicle systems and on-board computers are connected to the KATWARN app and provide information about hazardous locations.

News portals & Websites

By linking editorial systems and using web links, KATWARN ensures the immediate display of warnings on news portals and information websites.

Public space

Digital advertising displays or time-tables at public stops inform about situations of danger on-the-spot or nearby.

Cell phones

Cell phones and smart phones show location-based or topic-specific warnings.

www.katwarn.de/en

Try it out!

Worldwide, the German KATWARN application is available free of charge for:

- iPhone (App Store)
- Android Phone (Google Play store)
- Windows Phone (Windows Phone Store)

It allows to receive notifications from German Authorities all over the world accordingly to subscribed topics and locations. Depending on the language setting of the smart phone, the app is available in German or English. However, the warning content,

composed by the authorities themselves, is provided in the official language of the respective authority only (usually German).

Important note: Notifications will only be provided for locations and for occasions where the competent authorities have officially taken KATWARN-Germany into operation or are cooperating with, in terms of the KATWARN roaming technology. Please find an overview of the places where KATWARN is currently in operation at:

www.katwarn.de/en/areas





Operating in Germany since 2011

KATWARN was developed by the renowned Fraunhofer Institute FOKUS in Berlin (Germany) on behalf of the German public insurance companies, and is being operated in many districts and federal states of Germany since 2011. Furthermore, the German Weather Service (Deutscher Wetterdienst DWD), as a federal authority, also uses KATWARN for the highest categories of national weather warnings, in case of weather events with possible far-reaching effects on humans and their surroundings. Also, more and more private companies and operators of critical infrastructures have decided to join KATWARN and have taken it into operation for their areas of responsibility.

Besides connecting further authorized originators of warning content, governmental as well as private, KATWARN aims to achieve a new level of interconnectivity by providing warning information to any kind of digital information channel. Furthermore, after the KATWARN technology has been proven successful in Germany, it is ready to be used on an international level.

KATWARN Roaming

The KATWARN service will be set up in different countries, with distinct applications being offered to national users. But no matter which app a user has installed, the KATWARN roaming technology provides official warnings in either country. Yet, the responsibility for the messages stays with its original authorities.

Furthermore, the national KATWARN applications are available in every app store for iPhones, Android, and Windows Phones worldwide. So, be prepared for your next trip!

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