

October 13, 2019

Typhoon Hagibis – CAT response services

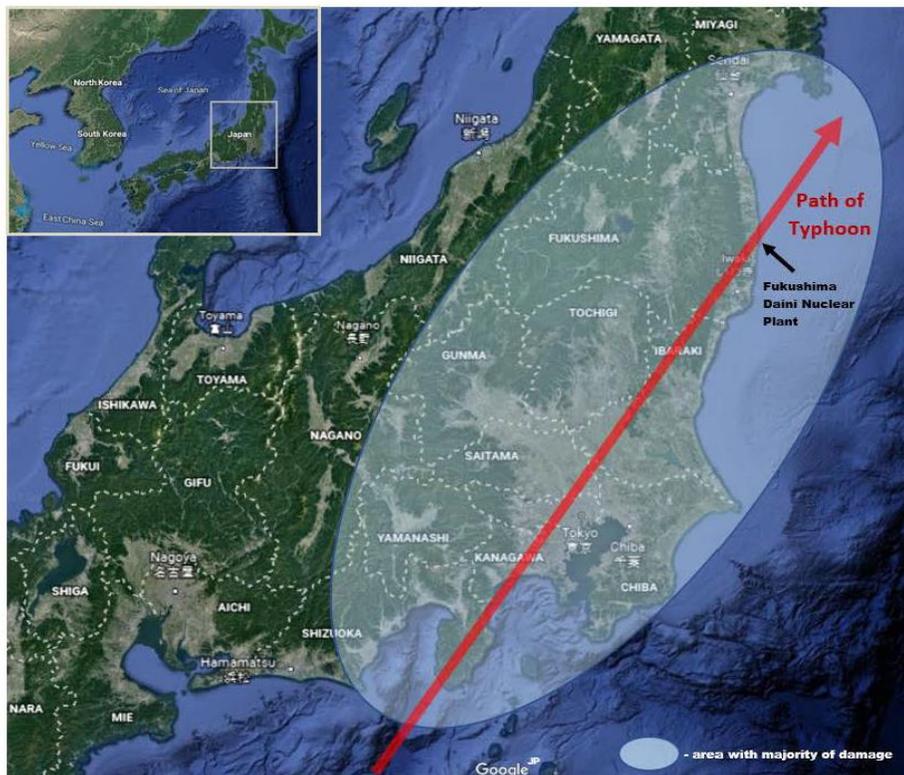
Incident overview

Typhoon 19 (Hagibis) made landfall at around 1900 hours local time south of Tokyo near the Izu peninsula. Over the subsequent 12 hours, it moved north across the main island of Honshu significantly impacting the prefectures of Kanagawa, Chiba, Nagano, Gunma and Fukushima. Following more or less a northern track, Hagibis moved back out to the western pacific north of the Fukushima Prefecture early on the 13th October.

At landfall, Hagibis had weakened to the equivalent of a category 2 hurricane. High winds and some tornado activity however caused significant damage particularly in coastal areas south west of Tokyo. Around 925 mm of rain fell in a 24-hour period in the Kanagawa Prefecture. West of Tokyo, rainfall was recorded at 590 mm.

At the height of the storm, evacuation notices affected over 6 million people. More than 500,000 homes lost power and sadly as of Sunday evening, 23 fatalities have been reported with more people still missing.

At 1820 hours, a 5.3 Richter scale earthquake also occurred near Tokyo with no reported damage.



Nature and extent of damage

In all affected prefectures, significant flooding has occurred with bridges washed away and landslides affecting transport routes. Several rivers are reported to have burst their banks or breached levees, inundating large areas and flooding thousands of homes and businesses. The most significant damages reported so far include:

- 10 bullet trains damaged by floodwaters in the Nagano prefecture
- Tornado damage in Chiba, mainly to residential buildings
- Infrastructure damage, levee banks and bridges (rail and road) washed away
- Massive and widespread floodwater inundation of residential areas

Impact to industries

Main industries impacted in the worst affected areas include electronics and telecommunications component manufacturing. Many factories are expected to be critical to supply chains involving motor vehicles and telecommunication devices. These impacts will likely be felt not only in Japan but also regionally and will involve major overseas based multinationals.

The event is expected to produce a large volume of commercial insurance claims resulting from the wind, rain, flooding and storm surge along the coast. In addition to the property and subsequent business interruption losses, we expect contingent business interruption losses as well due to the impact on supply chains.

Sedgwick response

We would like to ensure our clients know we are ready to help. Sedgwick has set up a Catastrophe (CAT) response team in Japan. Stephen Hope, Head of Major and Complex Losses (MCL) for Asia, arrived in Japan on Friday 11 October to set up an operations center. He is joined by Robert Williams, MCL Technical Director for Asia. Together with Darren Livengood, Catastrophe Manager for Asia and Japan Country Manager, they are leading the response.

Sedgwick has also mobilized a large team of adjusters from around the region to assist and work with the local Japan team. Our adjusters have an average of 30 years of experience handling all types of residential and commercial claim, including large complex and catastrophic losses. The Japan team will liaise with clients in the local language and work seamlessly with the support team from abroad.

With the largest pool of resources in the industry, Sedgwick is prepared to respond to our customers' claims handling needs.

Catastrophe contacts

Asia

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To report claims, contact Darren Livengood for immediate set up and assignment.

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