



Who: Charles “Chuck” Doswell

What: Private Consultant, Doswell Scientific Consulting

When: CCM since 2002

Where: Norman, Oklahoma

Why: Became a CCM in order to pursue new directions after retiring from federal career as a research scientist



How: Doswell began his career as a professional meteorologist in 1976 with the completion of his graduate studies, including an M.S. and Ph.D., at the University of Oklahoma. From 1976 to his retirement in early 2001, he worked for NOAA at various agencies, focusing on severe convective storms: the National Severe Storms Forecast Center in Kansas City, Missouri; the Weather Research Program in Boulder, Colorado; and the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, Oklahoma. Anticipating his retirement, he began the process of becoming a CCM in order to broaden his career possibilities. Along with private consulting, Doswell currently works part-time as a senior research scientist for the Cooperative Institute for Mesoscale Meteorological Studies at the University of Oklahoma, supported by research grants and working with graduate students supported by grant funds.

In His Own Words: “As a consultant, I perform a variety of services for diverse clients. I’ve written a training publication for NOAA’s National Weather Service on tornado damage assessment. The Chinese Meteorological Administration has hired me to lecture to their forecasters on severe convective storm forecasting topics. I was also contracted by Aflac to do a study of the wind-hazard climatology for a building where they intend to house their data-processing facilities. And several law firms have engaged me to do forensic investigations for civil court cases involving severe-weather-related claims. This involves doing research into specific weather events and providing a written assessment to the lawyers who hired me. It can also involve giving depositions and actual court appearances as an expert witness (if the case goes to trial).

“My students know I’m a CCM, and I encourage them to consider it, no matter what their intentions might be for future employment. I found the process of becoming a CCM to be a valuable learning experience, preparing me for the issues I would confront once I’d passed my requirements. I believe that the process as I experienced it more than met my expectations. So far, having my CCM has been an important component in establishing my credentials in the minds of my clients, so there can be no doubt that having it has been helpful in being hired as a consultant. I certainly would do it again.”