

The American Meteorological Society

Certified Consulting Meteorologists

Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 2

Summer 2015

This newsletter is intended to enhance communications between CCMs, the BCCM, and the AMS. It is published quarterly to provide information about the on-going activities of the CCM program. Please remember to use the **CCM forum on the AMS website** for your communication and exchanges between CCMs

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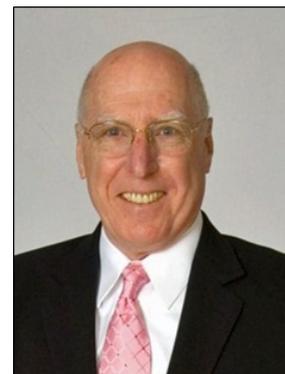
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The Chair's Column

Dear CCM Colleagues,

Board member Tony Lupo proposed and your Board accepted a value proposition for becoming a Certified Consulting Meteorologist:



The value of becoming a Certified Consulting Meteorologist (CCM) is knowing that the American Meteorological Society supports the CCM program and that every CCM stands behind not only your knowledge of meteorology, but also your professional standards, as well as your personal integrity. There are also other benefits as well:

- You prove to yourself that you possess the attributes of a CCM
- You are competitive in the marketplace
- You have another visible level of competency in the eyes of the community
- Your clients know they are receiving the highest quality service
- You can have a lifelong association with other CCMs, and opportunities for knowledge sharing
- You have an opportunity to serve within the CCM community, furthering the goals of the AMS and shaping the future of the CCM program
- Your long term value of the CCM program far outweighs the short term cost to become a CCM

Do you think we got it right? Do you think it presents a persuasive argument on why to become a CCM? Would you feel comfortable discussing this value proposition with possible new CCM candidates? Let me know what you think at bccm.chair@gmail.com.

We continue with our evaluations of candidates. We have 14 candidates in the certification process that starts with their application and finishes with the board's recommendation for certification after the candidate's oral exam.

The deadline for 2015 Awards and Fellows nominations has passed. Even though we did not receive any nominations for The Henry T. Harrison Award for Outstanding Contributions by a Consulting Meteorologist this year, we were able to recommend an individual for the award who was nominated earlier. This award is an opportunity to recognize the superior work of a colleague, and it does take a fair amount of effort to complete the nomination. So the time to identify those who deserve recognition and to start the nomination process for the 2016 Awards and Fellows is now.

We also have an opportunity to recognize those CCMs for election to Fellow who have made outstanding contributions to the atmospheric or related oceanic or hydrologic sciences or their applications during a substantial period of years. There are 39 CCMs who are also Fellows. Some of my colleagues took the time to submit a nomination for me and I was elected to AMS Fellow; I am always grateful to those colleagues. Again, now is the time to begin the process for next year. The deadline will be May 1, 2016.

While we wait for the AMS survey data quality control to be completed, some information can be gleaned from the CCM listing available at <http://www.ametsoc.org/memdir/seallist/getlistofccm.cfm>

Since the first CCM over 58 years ago, 712 individuals have earned the certification.

Currently there are:

- 287 active CCMs
- 77 Retired CCMs
- 177 CCMs who are not active because they did not renew their certification
- 34 CCMs whose Professional Development Portfolio was not submitted.

Approximately 5-6% of the CCM community are women and 4% of the active CCMs are Board members. Note if you want to be part of the Board, let me know.

Have a great and busy summer.

Buddy Ritchie CCM #648

2015 Chair, Board of CCMs

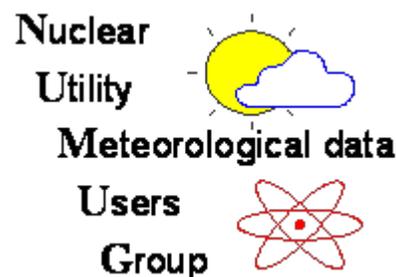
Fellow of the AMS ■

17th NUMUG Meeting

October 21 - 23, 2015

Nashville, TN

Preliminary Announcement and Call for Papers



Background and Objectives

The Seventeenth Nuclear Utility Meteorological Data Users Group (NUMUG) meeting will be held at the Sheraton Music City Hotel in Nashville, TN during 21-23 October 2015. This technical meeting will include papers and panel discussion presentations, combined with ample opportunities for group and individual information exchanges, on meteorological monitoring and operations related to nuclear-powered electric-generating facilities. A preprint will be prepared in paper and electronic format.

NUMUG Meeting attendance includes lunch on Thursday, breakfasts on Thursday and Friday, and snacks during breaks. Pending social events on Wednesday (dinner) and Thursday evening (downtown bus tour of Nashville with dinner stop) will be an additional cost of approximately \$25.00 for Wednesday evening and \$45.00 for Thursday evening.

Call for Abstracts and Papers

Technical paper presentations and panel discussions will address areas such as:

- Meteorological monitoring – including equipment and data processing upgrade issues
- Evolving regulations and guidance for meteorological monitoring at nuclear

facilities

- Atmospheric dispersion modeling for accidental and routine airborne releases, including control room habitability issues
- Meteorological case studies
- Concerns related to proposed new plants
- Other applications for weather information within nuclear electric utility operations

Abstracts are solicited on all aspects of these topics. To produce timely reports and publications, the following deadlines have been established:

- Abstract (preferably one page or less) due: August 10, 2015
- Final Paper, PowerPoint presentation, and speaker bio due: September 14, 2015

Please send abstracts to:

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FAX: 570-542-3461

Accommodations

Attendees are responsible for making their own hotel room reservations. We have negotiated a special group rate of \$179.00 per night (\$189.00 for 3 people;

\$199.00 for 4 people) at the Sheraton Music City hotel. The reservation includes guest room wireless internet, airport shuttle service (5am – 11pm) and onsite self-parking.

Address:

777 McGavock Pike
Nashville, TN 37214

Tel: 615-885-2200

Web: http://www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/property/overview/contact.html?propertyID=198&language=en_US

Registration

Conference registration payment via check or money order made out to NUMUG. Payment should be mailed to:

Mr. James Holian
9192 Baltimore National Pike
Middletown, MD 21769

Feel free to call Jim with any questions regarding registration payment:
301-788-6734

Additional information

- Tables with electrical power will be available to vendors who wish to display material.
- A NUMUG business meeting is planned for Friday October 23rd
- ANSI/ANS working group committee meetings are planned for Wednesday afternoon prior to the meeting
- Questions concerning the NUMUG meeting should be addressed to Frank Hickey

We look forward to seeing you in Nashville in October. ■

James Caron, CCM #652, speaks at the Fugro Chance Inc. May Safety Meeting

Contributed by James Caron, CCM #652

James Caron, CCM # 652, had the opportunity to be the keynote speaker at the Fugro Chance Inc. May Safety meeting regarding the topic of Hurricane Preparedness on May 27th, 2015. Approximately 75 people were in attendance.

After serving in the United States Air Force as a meteorology officer, Mr. Caron was hired as a consulting meteorologist for Citigroup in their commodity trading division. He currently works as the senior meteorologist for Macquarie providing short and long-term weather forecasts for various types of commodity trading such as power and natural gas.

In preparation for his keynote, he developed a 27-slide presentation with a review of the 2014 tropical season and projections for the 2015 tropical season. Included in his talk were details on how/when/where tropical systems typically form, various 2015 tropical forecasts from Colorado State and NOAA, and National Hurricane Center updates for 2015. He finished with information on hurricane preparation (disaster kits, etc).

The event was a great success, and the attendees were able to receive a thorough understanding of tropical weather and how to prepare for the upcoming season. This was a great professional development and networking opportunity and other CCMs may find similar speaking engagements to be beneficial. ■

Transitioning NASA and NOAA Satellite Products, Modeling & Data Assimilation Techniques, and Nowcasting Tools to Operation

Contributed by Bradley Zavodsky and William W. Vaughan, PhD, CCM, NASA/MSFC Earth Science Office

The Short-term Prediction Research and Transition (SPoRT) project at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, AL is a NASA- and NOAA-funded activity to transition experimental/quasi-operational satellite observations and research capabilities to the operational weather community to improve short-term weather forecasts on a regional and local scale. The program continues to expand on its suite of unique products, building additional collaborations and partnerships, and conducting innovative research to address specific weather forecast challenges and benefit operational activities in the NOAA/National Weather Service (NWS) and the disaster response community. End users include NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs), NWS/National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) National Centers, other government agencies, and Private sector partners.

Originally working with partners in the southeastern United States, over the last five years, SPoRT has seen an expansion of data products that support new collaborating partners. Now, SPoRT has active collaborations with more than 30 WFOs in all 6 NWS regions and 5 NCEP National Centers. SPoRT works collaboratively with university partners to obtain real-time data and an engage the research community in the development of new experimental products. A map of partners is given in the following figure.

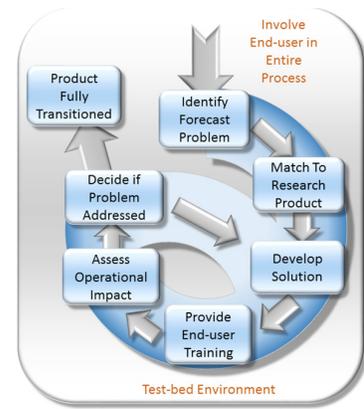


SPoRT's expertise is separated into four research areas: remote sensing, modeling and data assimilation, total lightning, and disasters. In remote sensing, SPoRT

focuses on transition of multispectral (i.e. Red, Green, Blue [RGB]) imagery and passive microwave imagery and derived products. Modeling and data assimilation activities focus on improving regional land surface and atmospheric models through the use of satellite-derived vegetation, sea surface temperature, and soil moisture along with hyperspectral infrared sounder observations. Expertise in total lightning involves transition of ground-based lightning mapping array observations and gridded products to prepare forecasters for future satellite-based lightning observations. Disasters activities focus on use of high-resolution land-surface imagery and vegetation along with unique Day/Night Band observations for post-disaster response and recovery.

The SPoRT program functions in a testbed environment that is illustrated in the following figure. This research-to-operations/operations-to-research paradigm enables the project and its partners and collaborators to provide products that are needed and can be readily used in an operational environment. Keys to this paradigm is active collaboration and communication with end users, formatting experimental data sets for view in end-user decision support systems, creating training materials focused on user needs and applications, and obtaining end-user feedback on the forecaster confidence and operational impact of experimental products.

Additional details and information concerning the SPoRT program can readily be obtained by visiting the NASA SPoRT Website at: <http://weather.msfc.nasa.gov/sport> ■



Call for Survey Participants in the Meteorological Community

Contributed by Matt Bolton, Pasco-Hernando State College, and Greg Blumberg, University of Oklahoma

Matt Bolton and Greg Blumberg, two student meteorologists working on national weather education, are looking to engage the meteorological community in discussions of learning for individuals with learning disabilities (LD).

As a first step, a brief survey is being conducted with a focus on color blindness, autism, ADHD and dyslexia. This will allow for a better understanding of the measures that members of the meteorological community are taking to facilitate learning and communication to LD audiences.

Your input to this survey is very important. The results will be presented at the 2015 National Weather Association Annual Meeting, and will also be used to facilitate further research.

The survey can be accessed at <https://matt201.typeform.com/to/NOOKNY>
The deadline for the survey is **August, 31st, 2015** ■

Connect on Social Media

LinkedIn

The LinkedIn page is becoming more active. If you have not joined, please do! The LinkedIn page is accessible and open only to CCMs. You must join LinkedIn (it is free) first before requesting to join the CCM page. Once you join LinkedIn, (or if you are already a member) then just simply type "Certified Consulting Meteorologist" in the search box on the top right to search for our group. We anticipate the LinkedIn site to be an easy way for CCMs to communicate with each other and keep us all abreast of news, developments, and items of interest to CCMs.



Facebook

For all CCMs, colleagues, and the general public, we have a CCM Facebook page. It can be found by searching in Facebook for "Certified Consulting Meteorologist (CCM)." This page needs much more interest to be generated, beginning with every CCM "liking" the page.



Twitter

For all CCMs, colleagues and the general public, we have a new Twitter account. Leading up to the Annual Meeting, this year we intend to market the 2015 CCM Forum in earnest via Twitter. Also at the Annual Meeting, we use this account to announce upcoming speakers to promote the CCM Forum during each talk. If you are on Twitter, please follow the handle @AMS_BCCM ■



Upcoming AMS Meetings

[12th Symposium on the Urban Environment / 9th International conference on Urban Climate](#)

20-24 July 2015, Toulouse, France

[16th Conference on Mesoscale Processes](#)

3-6 August 2015, Boston, MA

[2015 AMS Summer Community Meeting](#)

4-6 August 2015, Raleigh, NC

[37th Conference on Radar Meteorology](#)

14-18 September 2015, Norman, OK

[11th International Conference on Southern Hemisphere Meteorology and Oceanography](#)

5-9 October 2015, Santiago, Chile

[The 9th Certified Consulting Meteorologist \(CCM\) Forum](#)

13 January 2016, New Orleans, LA ■

Thanks to all of our contributors for this issue.

We encourage you to share your experiences, views, findings, or studies for the next newsletter.

E-mail your articles to:
[Ron Baskett](#) and/or [Jennifer Call](#)

Fall 2015 Newsletter submission deadline is September 10, 2015