

Building Partnerships between the Academy and Private Sector Meteorology

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Traditionally, private sector meteorology in the U.S. has had relatively little contact with the academic community. With only a very few exceptions, the private sector has dealt with the federal government and relied on adapting tools and techniques originally developed by the federal government to meet customer needs. However, this situation is rapidly changing as today's customers are seeking more sophisticated products and services that go well beyond what can be provided using this traditional approach. The private sector and the academy need to establish a new working relationship based on partnership to support R&D that leads to new products and services.

This talk will give a bit of background on what has led to this new situation, and suggest some mechanisms by which private sector meteorology firms can partner with university researchers. The talk is based on the experiences at one university over the last decade, but many of the points made should be transportable to other institutions.