



BOOSTING PRIVATE SECTOR COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH FEDERALLY-FUNDED WEATHER & ENVIRONMENTAL R&D

LUNCHEON BRIEFING INVITATION

Thursday, June 22 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm, Rayburn Building, Room 2325

In announcing the *American Competitiveness Initiative* (ACI), President Bush said: “Federal investment in research and development has proved critical to keeping America’s economy strong by generating knowledge and tools upon which new technologies are developed.” In this briefing, industry representatives will present examples of how federal weather-related research provides the basis for successful private sector applications, contributing to the US economic and competitive capacity in the global marketplace.

How do industries use government agency observational data and models in support of their work? How do private sector-academic-government partnerships successfully move research results to real-world applications? The panelists will discuss critical challenges for maintaining the technological and intellectual edge of the U.S. environmental monitoring and prediction enterprise.

Briefing Speakers:

- **Frank Nutter** is President of the **Reinsurance Association of America**, representing U.S. domestic reinsurers and reinsurance brokers. The reinsurance industry is composed of insurance professionals and scientists dedicated to the understanding of potential loss due to naturally occurring hazards.
- **Maria Pirone** is Vice President of the Commercial Division of **Atmospheric and Environmental Research, Inc. (AER)**, where she manages the technology transfer of atmospheric and environmental research to commercial products and services for use in the energy, financial, broadcast and government markets. She is currently serving on the NSF Geosciences Advisory Committee and the Science Steering Committee for the US Weather Research Program (USWRP). In 2001 she was appointed to a NAS committee on Public-Private Partnership in Weather and Climate Services, and has been actively on this issue since the mid-90’s.
- **Dr. Walter Dabberdt** is Director of Strategic Research for the **Vaisala Group**, a global developer and manufacturer of environmental measurement products and services. He currently serves on the National Academies’ Board on Atmospheric Sciences and Climate; the NRC Decadal Study of Earth Science and Applications from Space; the THORPEX Observing Systems Working Group (Co-Chair), and the Emerging Technologies Panel (Co-Chair) of the NSF Facilities Assessment Study.
- **Dr. Philip Ardanuy** is Director, Remote Sensing Applications, for **Raytheon Information Solutions**. He has 26 years of experience in the aerospace, weather, and environmental remote sensing and modeling industry, and specializes in developing integrated mission solutions through industry-government-academic partnerships. He currently serves on the National Academy’s Earth Science and Applications from Space (ESAS) Committee, Panel on Earth Science Applications and Societal Objectives (“the Decadal Survey”), and formerly served on the Academy’s Committee on Environmental Satellite Data Utilization (CESDU).

RSVP by Friday, June 16, to Gloria Kelly at (303) 497-2102 or gloriak@ucar.edu

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