Precipitating an Understanding of Weather

A Focus on First Responders

Project by:
Joshua Jans, Amanda Brandt, Pamela Szatanek
Problem Statement

Severe weather often brings the public in direct effect with the phenomena of weather. Our teams’ experiences in the field have seen a disconnection between the science and weather forecasters on one hand and the first responders and their interpretations on the other hand.

Research Objective

The purpose of this study is to extract an understanding of first responder’s needs from the weather community while developing a severe weather curriculum dedicated to the needs of first responders to help foster a deeper understanding of severe weather processes and available weather products.
Methods

✓ Background Check with First Responders
   (Face to Face, E-mail, Organizations)

✓ Review Relevant Literature and Research

✓ Seek Related Resources for Weather Education
   (Example: COMET Program)

✓ Development of Learning Structures and Resources

✓ Research Existing Organizations for Related Material

✓ Tools and Styles for Educating
   (example – Distance Education)
Potential Obstacles

✓ Funding
✓ Learning about First Responder Needs from the Weather Community
✓ Overcoming Bureaucratic Inertia
✓ Fostering Task Force Formation

Timeline

Work in Progress

* Online Webpage – Resources
* Protocol Development of First Responder Weather Needs
* Digital Lesson Plans
* Training Videos
* Distance Learning Products

Product Creation
Resource Needs

- Online Development Tools
- Digital Recordable Medias
- Transportation Cost
- Survey Resources
- Course Work Material
- Etc.

Test Bed Communities

- Austin, TX
- Chanhassen, MN
- Washington, DC