**SCIENCE TO OPERATIONS COOPERATIVES FOR ANTARCTIC WEATHER FORECASTING**

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**1. Introduction**

Operational meteorology continues to review science initiatives and to find helpful applications to improve flight, ship, and personnel safety. Application of this concept has directly assisted in the improvement of forecasting skills and observation effectiveness over the past decade. The end result is program wide cost savings and greater efficiency in field operations.

**2. Discussion**

Cooperatives have been established identifying research initiatives that may help current operational meteorology issues. Identification of known items that require slight modifications continues with AMRC.

**External initiatives:**

Pending initiative that has been presented to SOPP includes:

* Re-analysis of West Antarctica
* AWARE

The AWARE project is maybe the easiest to find direct benefit with sensors and measured outcomes from a host of equipment both in McMurdo and over western Antarctica.

**Internal initiatives:**

* Employment of a Research Analyst
* AIREP – Reengaging ATC to provide meteorology parameters in the position reports
* Fog Alert – continued development of fog alert calculator based on vertical measures.
  + Crater Hill enhancement with the addition of Temperature/ Dew Point Sensor
  + Automatic updates from the AWS Database
* Redesign of Field Party MET Kits
  + May include rangefinder Binoculars
  + Smaller/lighter for greater employment

**3. SUMMARY**

Using direct communication in this manner allows the greatest exposure and recognition of items that may provide a process or application to improve operational support. SOPP encourages outside participation with any known data sets that can lead to greater forecast accuracy.