

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

National Weather Service awards COOP Modernization

Columbia MD – October 29, 2003 - Prism Communications, Inc. a network systems developer and integrator announced today that the National Weather Service (NWS) has awarded a new contract to implement a modernization of COOP stations in the New England region.

Established in 1890, the COOP network was set up to take meteorological observations, establish, and record climate conditions in the United States, primarily for agricultural purposes. Volunteers are provided a set of weather instruments and observing instructions by NOAA's National Weather Service ([NOAA Weather Service](#)), which manages and maintains the network.

Since its inception, many uses for COOP data have emerged. These applications include: climate change and variability; water management; flood zone determination; drought assessment; environmental impact assessment; risk management and insurance industry needs; litigation; engineering, power plant and architectural design; energy consumption studies/models; crop yield forecasts; and weather and climate forecasts, warnings and verification.

"The New England demonstration network of COOP stations will provide surface weather observations in near real-time", said Dr. Frank Kelly, Program Manager for NOAA's Science and Technology Infusion Program. "These stations will provide reliable data and demonstrate the potential for a national implementation. We are also interested in having the flexibility to expand to include additional environmental sensors such as air quality and bio-hazard monitors" he said.

An improved COOP network also supports President Bush's Climate Change Research Initiative and will provide very high spatial resolution. When integrated with NOAA's newly emerging Climate Reference Network, these two networks will provide the nation with the highest quality information possible regarding climate trends nationally, regionally, and locally.

"Prism is excited to be a partner with NOAA National Weather Service for the COOP New England Modernization Program and for the benefits it will provide to our regional and national economy. This significant contract award is a testament to Prism's ability to deliver mission critical and *best-value* solutions to our customers" said Joe Bharwada, COO.

COOP Modernization will provide many benefits including increased ability to forecast floods and temperature extremes, drought and snowfall, provide data continuity and better information for decision makers and make real-time observations available.

About Prism Communications:

Prism Communications, Inc is a solutions provider that enables innovation and helps design, develop and implement cost-effective solutions. Prism brings long-term experience to client engagements and rapidly delivers solutions based on robust methodologies such as CMM Level 3 processes for software development. Areas of focus include Communications Networks, Network Management, Embedded systems and Systems Integration. Please direct queries to Prism Communications, Inc. 6990 Columbia Gateway Drive Suite 250, Columbia MD 21046: +1 410.953.0200. Email: press@prismComm.com

More information on our company and services is online at www.prismComm.com

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