Space Weather Services: The U.S. Approach

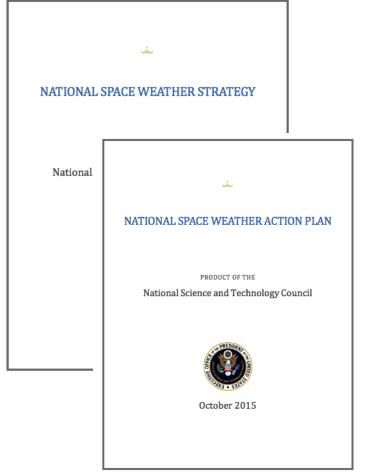


Dr. William M. Lapenta

Director, National Centers for Environmental Prediction NOAA/National Weather Service Space Weather as a Global Challenge Embassy of Italy, 18 May 2017



National Space Weather Strategy and Action Plan: All of Government Approach



- Chartered under White House National Science and Technology Council
 - Chaired by Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), NOAA, and Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS)
 - 20 Government Departments, Agencies, and Service Branches involved
 - OSTP: policy lead
 - NOAA: operational forecasting
 - DHS: preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery
- Released 29-October-2015
- Outlines goals for operations, research, mitigation, and response in preparation for extreme events.
- Strategy and Action Plan are publicly available

Space Weather Prediction Center

Continuous Coordination with Multiple Customer Sectors - In Support of National Needs for Space Weather Services

Operations – Space Weather Forecast Office



Daily forecast since 1965.

Specifications: Current conditions **Forecast:** Conditions tomorrow

Watches: Conditions are favorable for storm

Warnings: Storm is imminent with high

probability

Alerts: observed conditions meeting or

exceeding storm thresholds

R & D –
Space Weather Prediction Testbed
Transitioning models into operations

R20

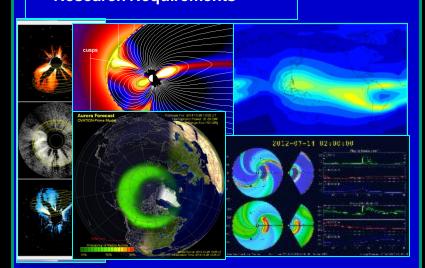
Research-to-Operations

- Applied Research
- Model Development
- Model Test/Evaluation
- Model Transition
- Operations Support

Operations-to-Research

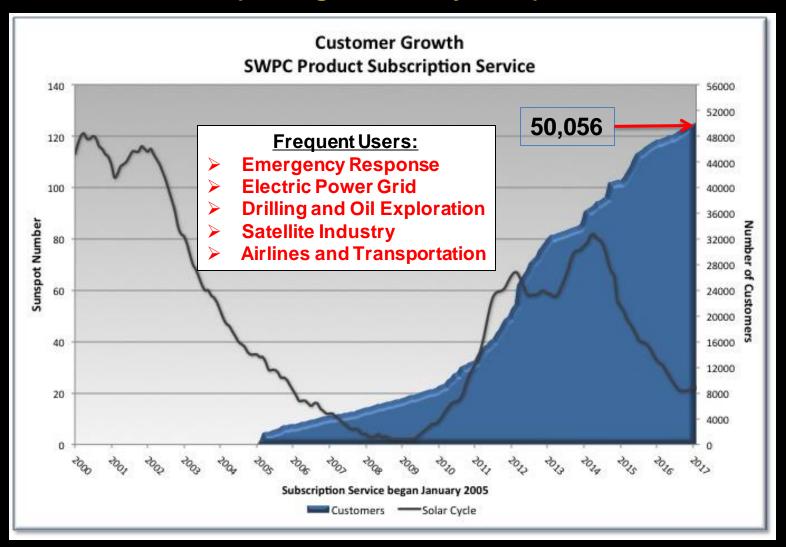
- Customer Requirements
- Observation Requirements
- Research Requirements

O₂R



Customer Subscriptions

(through February 2017)



- Continuous customer growth throughout the solar cycle
- Significant space weather can occur at any time



NWS Strategic Outcome: A Weather- and Water-Ready Nation





Executive Order – Coordinating Preparation for Space Weather Events

"...will enhance national preparedness and speed the creation of a space-weather-ready Nation."

Involves the entire US Weather, Water and Climate Enterprise WORKING TOGETHER



Priority Activities to Support Space Weather Services

Observations

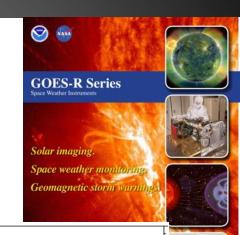
- DSCOVR went operational July 2016
- GOES-16 launched November 2016
- Ground-based Solar network operational
- Space Weather Forward Observatory (planning)

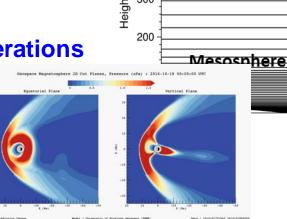
Modeling:

- Regional Geomagnetic Activity Model operational
- Solar Wind Disturbance Model upgrades
- Coupled Atmosphere-Ionosphere Model prototype real-time capability in FY17
- Electric Field model being tested for operations

SWORM/SWAP

- Extreme Event Benchmarks
- Operations-to-Research plan
- Economic Impact study





500

400



National Space Weather Strategy and Action Plan

National Strategy Goal 6 – Increased International Cooperation

- Increase international engagement:
 - Observation infrastructure
 - Data sharing
 - Numerical modeling
 - Scientific research
- Strengthen cooperation on space weather products and services
- Promote collaborative approach to preparedness for extreme events