



First-of-its-kind weather observing network located in Oklahoma City unveiled today during the National Weather Festival

NORMAN, OK—Representatives from the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma City came together at the National Weather Center this morning to unveil the Oklahoma City Micronet (OKCNET) – a 40-station network of real-time weather observing stations consisting of four Oklahoma Mesonet stations and 36 miniature weather stations mounted on traffic signals across Oklahoma City. The multipurpose network provides critical weather information for the daily operations of Oklahoma City, supports new scientific research focused on urban meteorology, and serves as a resource for the citizens of central Oklahoma.

OKCNET was developed during a 5-year collaboration between the Oklahoma Climatological Survey (OCS), the Oklahoma Mesonet, the University of Oklahoma (OU), and the City of Oklahoma City. The unveiling of the 40-station Oklahoma City Micronet represents a significant milestone in the history of weather data collection in metropolitan areas and is the first of its kind in the world in terms of data collection, quality, and availability to a variety of customers.

“The Micronet’s technology provides remarkable information that will benefit our residents in terms of public safety,” said Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett. “It will provide City crews with real time, detailed information about weather conditions Citywide so we can better anticipate everything from the location of freezing roads and flash flooding to the direction a fire might spread. In this type of partnership everyone wins.”

“The University of Oklahoma is proud to have supported the development, deployment, and operation of the Oklahoma City Micronet,” said Dr. Paul G. Risser, Chair of the University of Oklahoma Research Cabinet. “We see the state of the art atmospheric monitoring network in Oklahoma City not only as a valuable resource to the academic and research activities at the National Weather Center, but also as a tool that will pioneer new insights into urban meteorology and climate that will benefit anyone living in urban environments around the globe.”

To learn more about OKCNET and view current weather data, visit the website at <http://okc.mesonet.org>.

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