

The Radiometrics Forecast Challenge

RULES

1. OVERVIEW

- a. **Summary:** The Radiometrics Forecast Challenge (the “Challenge” or “Contest”) will consist of forecasting three separate weather events (“Events”), with a fourth tie-breaker Event if required. To compete, you must enter the Contest as described under “How to Enter.”
- b. **Dates:** The Challenge will start on February 1, 2015, and end no later than March 30, 2015; Event dates are weather dependent. Contest dates subject to change at the sole discretion of Radiometrics.
- c. **Locations:** Locations for the forecast Events are Vail, Colorado, and the Dallas/ Fort Worth, Texas metropolitan area. Radiometrics radiometers are operating in all Event locations, and data from the radiometer(s), all well as ROAB generated Skew-T plots generated from radiometer data, will be made available to contestants.
- d. **Resources:** Contestants are encouraged to use radiometer data provided by Radiometrics, along with other resources and forecasting tools available to the contestant, when creating forecasts for the Challenge.
- e. **Event Notification:**
 - (1) Radiometrics will notify contestants (“Notification”) of each Event via e-mail alerts and announcement on the Radiometrics website approximately 48 hours, but no less than 24 hours, in advance of the forecast submission deadline. The forecast will be for a 24 hour period, with start and stop times specified in the Notification. The Notification will include additional information on:
 - i. The judging criteria
 - ii. The official measurement site
 - iii. Additional information as may be deemed relevant by Radiometrics
 - (2) During each Event, Radiometrics will announce one or more **Flash Forecast** opportunities, emphasizing nowcasting skills. Flash Forecast notifications will be distributed via e-mail, with short response times. Flash Forecast winners may earn points towards the Forecast score for the Event, or be eligible for separate prizes. The judging criteria for the Flash Forecast will be including in the notification.
- f. **Judging Criteria:** For every Event, the judging criteria will be included in the Notification, and may vary between Events. As a minimum, the criteria will include:
 - (1) Max/min temperatures
 - (2) Max/min RH
 - (3) Precipitation total
- g. **Contest Winner Selection:** Contest winners will be determined by Radiometrics Meteorologists. Winners are selected based on accuracy of the submitted forecasts. All decisions are final; there is no mechanism to protest or challenge contest results.

- h. **Sponsors:** The Contest is sponsored and administered by **Radiometrics**, a Colorado corporation with principal place of business at 4909 Nautilus Court North, Suite 110, Boulder, CO, 80301, USA. Additional **Prize Sponsors** are:
- (1) **Environmental Research Services (ERS).** ERS is the developer of RAOB, the Universal RAwinsonde OBservation program. RAOB automatically decodes data from over 85 different formats and plots data on 12 interactive displays including skew-Ts, hodographs, & cross-sections. RAOB also produces displays of over 200 atmospheric parameters including icing, turbulence, wind shear, clouds, and inversions. Skew-T displays of data from atmospheric profilers at contest locations is provided using RAOB software. ERS is providing two copies of the RAOB Student Packages as prizes. For more information, visit www.raob.com.
 - (2) **Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB).** The CWCB, under the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, was created over 75 years ago and is the state's water policy and planning organization. Their mission is to protect, conserve and develop water resources. This winter the CWCB operates the atmospheric profiler installed at Beaver Creek; data from this profiler is used to improve the efficiency and efficacy of wintertime cloud seeding operations in the Vail valley. CWCB, in partnership with Vail Resorts, is providing two lift tickets, valid at any of the eleven resorts owned and operated by Vail Associates. For more information, visit www.cwcb.state.co.us.
 - (3) **Earth Networks, Inc.** Earth Networks' sensor networks monitor weather, lightning and greenhouse gases around the world. "Big data" from these networks enable Early Warning Systems that provide the most detailed information and the fastest alerts to severe weather when minutes matter. Earth Networks, in partnership with Radiometrics, developed and maintains the Earth Networks Boundary Layer Network (EN BLN) of atmospheric profilers. Boundary layer atmospheric data provided for the Dallas/Fort Worth contest location is courtesy of the EN BLN. Earth Networks is providing a \$250 AMEX gift card prize. For more information, visit www.earthnetworks.com.

2. PRIZES

- a. Best overall Forecaster – Apple iPad Air 2 WiFi (\$600 value)
- b. Best Student Forecaster (must be registered as F/T student in accredited meteorology or atmospheric physics program) – RAOB Student Package (\$300 value)
- c. Best Non-Student Forecaster – RAOB Student Package (\$300 value)
- d. Additional Prizes will be announced in the future.

3. HOW TO ENTER

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. The fastest way to enter is via the Radiometrics website: www.radiometrics.com/contest. You can also enter by sending an e-mail to wxcontest@radiometrics.com with the subject line ENTRY, and the following information in the body of the e-mail: First Name, Last Name, e-mail address (for notifications); Affiliation (optional, must provide to qualify for student prizes); phone number (optional, will only be used needed to clarify information on entry). ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY MIDNIGHT UTC ON JANUARY 30, 2015.

4. SUBMITTING FORECASTS

Forecasts must be submitted via the Radiometrics website at www.radiometrics.com/contest, unless otherwise directed in the Event Notification. The deadline for forecast submission will be stated in the Notification. **Only one Forecast per event per contestant is allowed. Multiple Forecasts will be disqualified.**

5. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- a. **Binding Agreement:** You agree that entering the Contest constitutes agreement to the Contest Rules. You may not enter the Contest and are not eligible to receive the prizes described in these Rules unless you agree to these Rules. These Rules form a binding legal agreement between you and Radiometrics with respect to the Contest.
- b. **Eligibility:** Contest is only open to U.S. legal residents with valid email address. You must be at least 18 years old to enter this contest. Contest is void where prohibited by law. Radiometrics owners, employees, interns, and contractors, and their immediate families are ineligible to participate in this Contest.
- c. **Notification of Winners:** Prize awards are subject to validation and verification of eligibility and compliance with all the terms and conditions set forth in these Rules. Contest winners will be notified by email within five business days of the Contest completion. If a winner does not respond to the notification attempt within ten (10) business days from the first notification attempt, then such winner may be disqualified and an alternate winner will be selected based on the judging Criteria described herein.
- d. **Taxes and Regulations:** ALL TAXES IMPOSED ON PRIZES ARE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE WINNERS. All federal, state and local laws and regulations apply.
- e. **Enforcement:** Radiometrics' failure to enforce any term of these Rules will not constitute a waiver of that or any other provision.
- f. **Release:** By participating in the Contest, each participant and winner waives any and all claims of liability against the Company, its employees and agents, the Contest's sponsors and their respective employees and agents, for any personal injury or loss which may occur from the conduct of, or participation in, the Contest, or from the use of any prize. In order to receive a prize, participants must sign an official waiver form provided by the Company.
- g. **Privacy:** Entrants agree and acknowledge that personal data submitted with an entry, including name, affiliation, mailing address, phone number, and email address may be collected, processed, stored and otherwise used by Radiometrics for the purposes of conducting and administering the Contest. Radiometrics will send Event Notifications via e-mail, and will also send information and examples of using RAOB and radiometer data to improve forecasting skill. By entering the Contest, you authorize Radiometrics to contact you via e-mail with information that is specifically related to the Contest. Radiometrics will not share e-mail addresses with any third-party, nor send any non-Contest related e-mails without your authorization. You agree that if you win any prize

in the competition, Radiometrics can use your name and (if provided) affiliation when announcing contest results.

- h. **Disqualification:** You agree to only enter the contest once; multiple entries by a single individual under different e-mail addresses will result in disqualification. Any false information provided within the context of the Contest by Entrant concerning identity, mailing address, telephone number, email address, or non-compliance with these Rules or the like may result in the immediate elimination of the entrant from the Contest. Radiometrics reserves the right to disqualify any Entrant from the Contest if, in Radiometrics' sole discretion, it reasonably believes that the Entrant has attempted to undermine the legitimate operation of the Contest by cheating, deception, or other unfair playing practices, or annoys, abuses, threatens or harasses any other entrants, Radiometrics, or Radiometrics employees.
- i. **Disclaimer:** Radiometrics is not responsible for any malfunction of the Radiometrics website or any late or lost, forecast entries due to system errors, failed, incomplete or garbled computer or other telecommunication transmission malfunctions, hardware or software failures of any kind, lost or unavailable network connections, typographical or system/human errors and failures, technical malfunction(s) of any telephone network or lines, cable connections, satellite transmissions, servers or providers, or computer equipment, traffic congestion on the Internet or at the Contest Site, or any combination thereof, including other telecommunication, cable, digital or satellite malfunctions which may limit Entrant's/consumer's ability to participate/vote respectively.
- j. **Right to Cancel, Modify or Disqualify:** If for any reason the Contest is not capable of running as planned, including infection by computer virus, bugs, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures, or any other causes which corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity, or proper conduct of the Contest, Radiometrics reserves the right at its sole discretion to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the Contest. Radiometrics further reserves the right to disqualify any Entrant who tampers with the submission process or any other part of the Contest. Any attempt by an Entrant to deliberately damage the Radiometrics website, or undermine the legitimate operation of the Contest is a violation of criminal and civil laws and should such an attempt be made, Radiometrics reserves the right to seek damages from any such Entrant to the fullest extent allowed by law.
- k. **Recourse:** These Rules shall be governed by, subject to, and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Colorado, United States of America. If any provision(s) of these Rules are held to be invalid or unenforceable, all remaining provisions hereof will remain in full force and effect. To the extent permitted by law, the rights to litigate, seek injunctive relief or make any other recourse to judicial or any other procedure in case of disputes or claims resulting from or in connection with this Contest are hereby excluded, and Entrants expressly waive any and all such rights.