



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization
North American, Central American and Caribbean Office

Webinar on the Implementation of the ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange Model (IWXXM) and Updates to the Tropical Cyclone Advisory Centre (TCAC)

17 June 2020, 11:00 am, Mexico City time

PRESENTERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Mr. Michael Graf

Mike Graf started his aviation weather career in 1981 as a weather observer in the United States Air Force, and a weather forecaster for the US Air Force Reserves from 1984 through 2013. His full time jobs have included working for the private sector Accu-Weather (1985-88), Universal Weather and Aviation (1988-1992) and his current position with the US National Weather Service (US Met Provider). First as a forecaster from 1992 through 1998, then he transitioned to the National Weather Service Headquarters in 1998. Mike worked with software developers to design, test and develop the Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF) production platform, as well as the TAF verification software, both still in use throughout the organization. In 2007 Mike moved into the International opening for aviation, and has been the Task Chair for Aviation in WMO Region 4 for the past 8 years. Mike is married with three teenagers and loves to travel with his wife Kim.



Mr. Mark Oberfield

Mark started his career with the National Weather Service in October 1989. He completed his Master's Degree in Atmospheric Science in 1991 while working as a forecast intern at the Birmingham AL Weather Forecast Office. After finishing his tour as an intern, he accepted a position as a meteorologist/computer programmer at the Meteorological Development Laboratory in December 1992.



Mark contributed to MDL's Interactive Computer Worded Forecast project, a prescient and visionary concept that allowed operational forecasters to use gridded meteorological fields to create products for the weather enterprise. During 2002-2009, Mark was the task lead for the Aviation Forecast Preparation System (AvnFPS), a highly useful and well-liked program within the NWS for monitoring surface observations and the TAFs. In 2015, Mark joined the WMO's Task Team on Aviation and has taken on the challenge of incorporating all of FAA filed differences and supplementary data contained in US products into IWXXM.

Mr. Kolly Mars

Kolly Mars started his career in the National Weather Service in 1992 after 6 years in the US Navy. He has worked at Weather Forecast Offices in South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Missouri. From 2011 to 2017 Kolly was been the project lead for the National Weather Service Internet Dissemination System responsible for serving the NWS web presence on weather.gov. Since 2017 Kolly has been in the Software Development Branch with NCEP Central Operations and leads the development efforts for the NexGen IT Web Services (NGITWS) project. Kolly lives in Kansas City, and is married with three children.



Mr. Daniel Brown

Daniel Brown is a senior hurricane specialist and warning coordination meteorologist at NOAA's National Hurricane Center in Miami. He began his career with NOAA in 1993 as a meteorologist with the Tropical Analysis Forecast Branch of the National Hurricane Center in Miami. Brown briefly worked at the National Weather Service Miami forecast office before returning to the National Hurricane Center in 1998. In 2006, he became a hurricane specialist with the National Hurricane Center, and was promoted to a senior hurricane specialist and the Warning Coordination Meteorologist in 2009. The position involves the issuance of track, intensity, and wind radii forecasts as well as associated watches and warnings for tropical cyclones in the Atlantic and eastern North Pacific Oceans. His role as the warning coordination meteorologist includes coordinating NHC's outreach and training activities, and working with FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) to develop hurricane preparedness training courses for emergency managers. Brown has served on the AMS Committee on Tropical Meteorology and Tropical Cyclones. He also serves on the Meteorology Topic Committee for the National Hurricane Conference and is an officer of the Florida Governor's Hurricane Conference.


