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News

EMS Media Awards 2011

Exchange on how to improve communication of meteorological and climatological information between developers, users, stake holders and decision makers, and to the general public has been one of the central objectives of the EMS since its foundation in 1999. To highlight outstanding examples and achievements three EMS Media awards have been established:

- the EMS TV Weather Forecast Award,
- the EMS Outreach & Communication Award,
- the EMS Broadcast Meteorologist Award.

The EMS Media Awards 2011 will be handed over during the [Media session](#) of the EMS Annual Meeting & ECAM in Berlin on Thursday, 15 September 2011 at 10:00 in Room Cambridge.

EMS Outreach & Communication Award 2011

The EMS Outreach & Communication Award is given in recognition of projects that explore new and effective ways to communicate the science of meteorology, climatology and related fields to the general public. More details at [O&C Award](#).

Two outstanding projects addressing different audiences have been selected. These two projects are the Mountain Wave Project and theWeather magazine. For both of them comprehensive documentation was provided, in this place only a short summary of both the projects is included.

- [theWeather](#)
- [Mountain Wave Project](#)

Citation: The MWP being a scientific project focused on applications, deserves great merit for incorporating outreach activities as part of the project. The communication with the public uses a variety of different channels explaining the issues to a wider audience. Through TV-features, radio broadcasts, publications, posters and numerous articles in the print media, the MWP regularly draws attention to atmospheric phenomena. The concept of the TV-documentary "Rodeo in the Sky – research for greater flight safety" is thrilling, moving, and educational, a very original and unusual combination.

The Mountain Wave Project (MWP) is an independent non-profit-project of the Scientific and Meteorological Section of the Organisation Scientifique et Technique du Vol à Voile (OSTIV) and is supported by the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI). In 1998 the pilots René Heise and Klaus Ohlmann founded the MWP, a project for global classification, research, and analysis of orographically created wind structures and gravity waves to improve the flight safety of flights over the mountains. Through the support of other scientists and cooperation partners, the MWP kept growing over several years and Prof. Joerg Hacker from Flinders University became a core member and the Chief Scientist of the project.

From the outset, outreach to the public to explain the issues to a wider audience has been part of the concept of the project, using a variety of different channels for communication. In connection with more than 10 scientific, partly international TV-features, radio broadcasts, publications, posters and numerous articles in the print media, the MWP regularly draws attention to atmospheric phenomena relevant for ozone depletion, momentum and pollution transport from the troposphere into the stratosphere, improvement of the parameterization schemes used in numerical weather and climate models, space weather and dispersion models.

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Brochure

The MWP TV-documentary "Rodeo in the Sky – research for greater flight safety" with its unique historical movie sequences of wave exploration of 80 yrs ago, as well as the images from the famous Jet Stream Project with the describing the "Monster Rotor" in the Sierra Nevada (which has caused several aviation incidents and accidents in the past) links the activities of the MWP impressively to earlier scientific initiatives and achievements.

[MWP website](#)

EMS Broadcast Meteorologist Award 2011

The EMS Broadcast Meteorologist Award 2011 is presented to honour life achievement of an outstanding broadcast meteorologist. With appreciation for his long and fruitful professional career the award is given to Dieter Walch.



For many Germans the name Dieter Walch is closely related to the television weather forecast. Dieter has acted for more than 25 years as the leading German weather presenter in ZDF German National Television. He has studied Mathematics, Physics and Meteorology at the Free University of Berlin. After receiving his Master in Meteorology, he worked as a Flight-Meteorologist, before he joined the German Air Force Weather Service as assistant professor. During this time the German National Television offered him the position of a TV-Meteorologist. He has also written some about Meteorology, TV-Meteorology and Climate.

TV Weather Forecast Award 2011

An outstanding video clip of a weather forecast submitted for presentation at the 11thEMS & 10thECAM is distinguished through the TV Weather Forecast Award. The trophy this year goes to broadcast meteorologist Jean Byrne.



Jean Byrne is a Meteorologist with Met Eireann, the National Meteorological Service of Ireland, since 1989. Initially employed as a Meteorological Officer, Jean went on to study Mathematical Sciences in Trinity College, Dublin, from which she graduated with honours in 1989. Following promotion to Meteorologist, Jean was assigned for a period of 9 months to the Aviation Office of Met Eireann in Shannon Airport for Training in Aviation Meteorology. She was subsequently assigned to the Research Division of Met Eireann. The Division was involved in the development of the Hirlam Forecast model at the time. From there, she moved to her present position as a weather forecaster in General Forecasting Division and, in 1996, was selected to be a Broadcast Meteorologist with RTE, the National Television Broadcaster of Ireland. Since then, Jean Byrne works a roster of duties in the General Forecasting Division, Met Eireann, Dublin, Ireland, as well as in RTE.

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