## NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE POLICY DIRECTIVE 10-21

February 14, 2003

Operations and Services

Intercomparison of Hydrometeorological Instruments and Algorithms

**NOTICE:** This publication is available at: <a href="http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives">http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives</a>

**OPR:** W/OS7 (R. Dombrowsky) **Certified by:** W/OS (G. Mandt)

**Type of Issuance:** Initial

- 1. Data produced by the National Weather Service for short-term forecasts and warnings also provide long-term historical information for climate monitoring, analysis and study. From time to time, the NWS will replace or modify instruments and algorithms as a normal life cycle event or to take advantage of new technology. Each instrument or algorithm possesses unique performance characteristics which may impact the long-term climate record. To ensure data quality and compatibility the guidelines and principles for climate monitoring must be met.
- 2. Intercomparisons will be conducted on all new or modified hydrometeorological instruments, and algorithms in accordance with procedures and instructions listed in Attachment 1. Wherever applicable, NWS intercomparisons will follow American Society for Testing Materials Standards (ASTM).
- 3. This directive establishes the following authorities and responsibilities:
- 3.1 The Director of the Office of Climate, Water, and Weather Services (OS) will establish procedures and instructions consistent with this policy directive.
- 3.2 All national sensor acquisition program managers must implement this policy. These program managers must also budget for conducting intercomparisons.
- 4. The effectiveness of this policy will be measured by verifying the intercomparisons are conducted in accordance with applicable procedures and instructions.
- 5. This policy directive is supported by references and information listed in Attachment 1.

Signed	January 31, 2003
John J. Kelly, Jr.	Date
Assistant Administrator	
for Weather Services	

## **Attachment 1**

## REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

## **Instructions**

10-2101 General Instructions for Instrument and Algorithm Intercomparisons Sixth Edition, WMO-No.8, "Guide to Meteorological Instruments and Methods of Observation"