

Christian Meinig

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Director of Engineering
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**Education:**

M.S., Mechanical Engineering, University of Washington, 1998
B.S., Mechanical Engineering, University of Maryland, 1987

Professional Biography:

Chris Meinig is the Director of Engineering at the Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, one of NOAA's Oceanographic Research Laboratories. He leads a diversified team of engineers and technicians specializing in the research, development and deployment of ocean and atmospheric instruments and observing systems. Supported programs are global in scope and include moorings, ships, ROVs and UASs.

- Director of Engineering, NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Lab, March 2000–present
- Mechanical Engineer, NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Lab, 1994–March 2000
- Commissioned Officer, NOAA Corps, 1988–1994

Field Experience:

Thirty major research cruises totaling over 550 days at sea, in polar, equatorial and coastal waters. Roles as ship's officer, project engineer and chief scientist. 11 cruises involved submersibles, ROVs or AUVs.

Professional Activities:

- Journal of Operational Oceanography, Editorial Staff, 2007–present
- NOAA Ocean Exploration Advisory Working Group Workshops, 2007–present
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), International Tsunameter Partnership Group, 2007–present
- National Sea Grant Technology Advisory Board, 2000–2002
- Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) Moored Ocean Observation System (MOOS) Design Review, June 2001
- IRIS/WHOI H2O cable observatory review committee, January 1999
- Source evaluation committee for PMEL Engineering Services Contract, 2001, 2003, 2008
- PMEL Instrumentation Pool (PIPICO), 1999–present

Patent:

United States Patent 7,289,907; Meinig, Stalin, Nakamura, Milburn; *System for reporting high resolution ocean pressures in near realtime for the purpose of tsunami monitoring*, issued October 30, 2007

Honors and Awards:

- **NOAA Technology Transfer Award:** *For the invention of DART tsunami technology, which allows NOAA to produce accurate forecasts and through a patent license generate new US jobs*, 2008
- **U.S. Department of Commerce Bronze Medal:** *For personal and professional excellence as the Nation's experts and spokespersons on tsunamis following the December 26, 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami*, 2007
- **U.S. Department of Commerce Gold Medal:** *For research and development leading to the creation of a tsunami forecasting capability*, 2005
- **U.S. Department of Commerce Gold Medal:** *For the creation and use of a new moored buoy system to provide accurate and timely warning information on tsunamis*, 2004
- **NOAA Administrator's Award:** "New Millennium Observatory Network", 2003
- **Antarctic Service Medal:** Awarded by NSF, 1999

Relevant Media Coverage:

IEEE Spectrum, Philip E. Ross, "[Waiting and Waiting for the Next Killer Wave](#)", March 2005
American Museum of Natural History, "[Fear the Future Tsunami?](#)", October 2005
Newshour with Jim Lehrer, "[Tsunami Alert](#)", January 11, 2005
Modern Marvels, History Channel, "[Nature Tech:Tsunamis](#)", first aired, July 8, 2003