

AT&T Innovations

OU, AT&T, and The Weather Channel Collaboration Could Potentially Save Lives During Severe Weather



The University of Oklahoma (OU), AT&T, and The Weather Channel have collaborated to equip several of OU's Advanced Radar Research Center's mobile research trucks with enhanced severe weather technology.

These enhanced trucks have cameras capable of streaming live video and near real-time radar data during severe weather events. Storm data and video provide research meteorologists with better observations and analysis capabilities. Live video and near real-time data are helping researchers improve prediction systems, warning times and potentially lessen the loss of life and property.

The University of Oklahoma offers the largest academic radar program in the nation. It is home to a fleet of mobile research vehicles with radar systems that can analyze severe storms of all types, from any location in the country. OU operates the radars in coordination with the Cooperative Institute for Mesoscale Meteorological Studies and the Advanced Radar Research Center.

"The University of Oklahoma is world-renown for its leadership in the fields of radar and severe weather research," said Berrien Moore, dean of the OU College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences, and director of the National Weather Center. "We are constantly working to improve and enhance our ability to increase lead time and accuracy in forecasting for hazardous weather events. The near real-time video and data transmission capabilities with this project align perfectly with this mission."

The AT&T network enables the trucks to send data back to the severe weather researchers in near real-time – even where radar coverage is limited. The Weather Channel will make airtime and live interview opportunities available for field researchers. The public will gain more knowledge of severe storm research.

"The Weather Channel is excited to collaborate with the University of Oklahoma and AT&T on this initiative. Being able to incorporate video technology into OU's research capabilities allows us to provide our viewers with the most accurate near real-time weather information," said David Clark, President of The Weather Channel. "With state-of-the-art technology, we're able to further our efficiency and ability to transmit important, life-saving information to our audience nationally."

The OU, AT&T, and The Weather Channel project offers many benefits. Some include:

- Sending near real-time data from the field to the National Weather Center and local research entities.
- Live streaming of video during severe storms.
- Better severe weather alerts and warnings for residents.
- More understanding of severe storms.
- Ability to broadcast potentially life-saving information nationally.

To learn more about the project, read this [AT&T Newsroom post](#).