

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE POLICY DIRECTIVE 30-61

March 18, 2014

Maintenance, Logistics & Facilities

ACCEPTANCE AND USE OF LOANED OR DONATED EQUIPMENT

NOTICE: This publication is available at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives>

OPR: W/OPS1 (L. Cano)

Certified by: W/OPS (D. Jones)

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SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: This directive supersedes NWS policy directive 30-61, “Acceptance and Use of Loaned or Donated Equipment,” dated June 12, 2007.

The following changes have been made:

- Section 1: Introduction – First sentence revised. The language has been modified for clarity.
- Section 1: Introduction – Second paragraph edited. The language has been modified for clarity.
- Section 2: Objective – Paragraph revised. The language has been modified for clarity.
- Section 4: Measuring Effectiveness – Paragraph revised. The language has been modified for clarity.

1. **Introduction.** To satisfy or to enhance the agency’s ability to meet mission needs, NOAA’s National Weather Service (NWS) may accept and use loaned or donated computer, electronic, and hydro-meteorological equipment (sensors, systems, hardware, software, and technology) from the *private sector* on an individual site, regional, or national basis. This directive provides policy for NWS acceptance and use of such loaned or donated items.

NWS may not accept any donation from the *private sector* if it would in any way give the appearance of a loss of impartiality – specifically if the donation would lead a reasonable person to question the NWS integrity. Based on this criterion, NWS may not accept donations from donors with an interest in matters on-going or pending before NWS, donors involved in any public controversy or government legal action, NWS grantees or grant applicants, contractors or bidders for pending NWS contracts or procurement(s), licensees or license applicants.

2. **Objective.** The objective of the NWS Acceptance and Use of Loaned or Donated Equipment policy is to ensure compliance with the Department of Commerce (DOC) Administrative Order (DAO) 203-9 requirements and the use of DOC Form CD-210, Record of Gift or Bequest. Item acceptance is contingent upon the loaned or donated item(s) meeting NWS operational requirements; having demonstrable capability to improve mission operations; not interfering with current NWS equipment or products, and NWS having resources available to

operate, monitor and maintain these loaned or donated items once accepted. It should not be construed in any manner that this is an official endorsement of the equipment, manufacturer or *private sector* entity.

3. Authorities and Responsibilities. This directive establishes the following authorities and responsibilities:

3.1 Assistant Administrator. The Assistant Administrator (AA) for Weather Services is responsible for overall implementation of the NWS Acceptance and Use of Loaned or Donated Equipment policy. The AA is also the final authority to accept or reject any item loaned or donated.

3.2 Office of Operational Systems. The Office of Operational Systems (OPS) represents Weather Service Headquarters (WSH) and is responsible for evaluating recommendations for acceptance and use of loaned or donated item(s) received from NWS regions and NWS science centers. OPS will provide guidance to the NWS regions and NWS science centers in reference to policy requirements on processing the required CD-210, Record of Gift or Bequest.

3.3 NWS Regions and Science Centers. NWS regions and science centers will follow NWS policy, procedures, and instructions for any loaned or donated equipment.

4. Measuring Effectiveness. Ensure the acceptance and use of loaned or donated equipment by NWS provides a value-added service or benefit that will help to meet or exceed the agency's mission performance thresholds. NWS will measure effectiveness with this policy directive by evaluating the actual operational availability of systems that include donated equipment, and accuracy of data collection and dissemination systems that include donated equipment, as reported in the Engineering Management Reporting System (EMRS).

5. References. This policy directive is supported by references and glossary of terms listed in Attachment 1.

Signed
Louis W. Uccellini
Assistant Administrator for Weather Services

March 4, 2014
Date

Attachment 1
GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References

1. DAO 203-9 GIFTS AND BEQUESTS, includes information on assigning a Gifts and Bequests Manager. See <http://www.osec.doc.gov/omo/DMPHome.htm>
2. CD-210 RECORD OF GIFT OR BEQUEST, see <http://osec.doc.gov/forms/direct.htm>

Glossary of Terms

Private sector is defined as state and local governments, private interest groups, vendors, universities, or individuals. Other Federal agencies are not within the scope of this directive since existing procedures (e.g., Memorandum of Agreement) accommodate these agencies.