

NEIL J. M. WHEELER, CCM

Senior Vice President
Division Manager, Atmospheric Modeling and Information Systems



Educational Background

M.A., Natural Science (Physics), San Jose State University
M.A., Curriculum and Instruction, University of Northern Colorado
B.A., Physical Science, University of California at Berkeley
B.S., Meteorology, San Jose State University

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Professional Experience

Mr. Wheeler joined STI in 1999 and manages STI's Atmospheric Modeling and Information Systems Division. He is responsible for planning and leading air quality modeling studies and the application of meteorological, emissions, and air quality models for use in regulatory and research studies. As an officer of STI, Mr. Wheeler has oversight responsibility for all of the company's information systems and related infrastructure. He has 36 years of practical experience in the atmospheric sciences and more than 25 years of experience developing, applying, and evaluating meteorological and air quality models. The American Meteorological Society awarded him the designation of Certified Consulting Meteorologist (No. 529). Mr. Wheeler also serves as a member of the External Advisory Committee to the Community Modeling and Analysis System, which maintains the Community Multiscale Air Quality (CMAQ) model and the Sparse Matrix Operator Kernel Emissions (SMOKE) processing system for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Mr. Wheeler has performed meteorological modeling in Texas, California, Utah, China, Idaho, New Mexico, and Qatar; emissions modeling in Texas, California, New Mexico, Utah, and the Middle East; ozone modeling in California, Arizona, Utah, Texas, New Mexico, Mid-America (Kansas and Missouri), Gulf of Mexico, Lake Michigan region, southeastern and northeastern U. S., and the Arabian Gulf; and particulate matter modeling in the eastern U. S., California, Utah, Idaho, and China. He was the Principal Investigator for database development and model intercomparison analyses in the North American Research Strategy for Tropospheric Ozone (NARSTO) Model Intercomparison Study. His recent work involves the application of CMAQ over the eastern U.S. with a new secondary organic aerosol module and ongoing, twice-daily CMAQ simulations for the contiguous U. S. with the CMAQ-based BlueSky Gateway prediction system.

Before joining STI, Mr. Wheeler was Chief of Environmental Applications at the North Carolina Supercomputing Center (NCSC). At NCSC, he was involved with the modeling and analysis activities of the Ozone Transport Assessment Group (OTAG), development and application of a Seasonal Model for Regional Air Quality for the Southeast States Air Resources Managers, development and application of the Denver Air Quality Model Version 2 for particulate matter, Monte Carlo analyses of uncertainty in photochemical models, annual meteorological and aerosol modeling for the entire United States, and ozone modeling for North Carolina and Texas.

Mr. Wheeler served the California Air Resources Board for 16 years and led their photochemical modeling program as Manager of Control Strategy Modeling. Mr. Wheeler actively participated in the design, data analysis, and modeling of large aerometric studies such as the South Central Coast Cooperative Monitoring Program, the Southern California Air Quality Study, the San Diego Air Quality Study, the Sacramento Area Ozone Study, the San Joaquin Valley Air Quality Study, and the Central California Air Quality Study. He also supported the development of numerous State Implementation Plans using photochemical models.

Mr. Wheeler started his career as a weather officer in the U.S. Air Force, where he spent four years at the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) providing weather support for the Command Director and developing new forecast techniques.

Professional Memberships

American Assoc. for the Advancement of Science
Air & Waste Management Association
American Meteorological Society
National Weather Association

Peer Reviewer

Journal of Chemical Engineering
Journal of the Air & Waste Management Association
Journal of Applied Meteorology
Atmospheric Environment
Environmental Science & Technology