JPDO

Private Sector Participation In NGATS Weather

> R. Strasser – WSI 13 July 2006

The Good, ...

- Meets the NGATS vision of safer skies while increasing airspace through-put
- "Taking a Hammer to the Problem" [Hammer/ HBR April 1990]
 - ConOps is a good example of 'reengineering'
- 'Thumbs Up' to JPDO in recognizing the need for private sector's involvement in the NGATS process
- The private sector's role in NGATS is clearly stated
 - Participation possible in both the 4D-Weather database, and more importantly, in the creation of decision-support tools

... the Bad, ...

- The private sector cannot accept 'free distribution' of premium products outside the government agencies
 - If a provider is disqualified because of this stipulation, the 4D
 Weather may be missing the "Best in Breed"
- Importance of a performance-based selection process versus a minimum requirements approach not stated
 - The latter could lead to less NAS efficiency

... and the Ugly

- While the private sector's role in NGATS is delineated, the government's is not
 - Problem comes back to NOAA's "Fair Weather" policy
 - NWS core mission is public safety, not decision-support systems
 - FAA has a mandate to promote commercialism
- NDOTs should only be provided by the private sector
 - Private sector's role is to 'add value' and 'operational efficiency'

Other 'Cloudy' Issues...

- Probabilistic forecasts may be fine for M2M but not sure this is what the human decision-makers want...
- Will all data be available to the Private Sector?
 - TDWR, Digital ATIS, LLWAS, 1-min ASOS and RVR, Wake Vorticity information, etc ??
- Skeptical of the full international community's buy-in