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New Hampshire: Mount Washington Observatory

The Mount Washington Observatory in New Hampshire is one of the oldest weather observatories in the world. Located in the White Mountains, it is a nonprofit and educational institute whose purpose is to maintain a permanently staffed observatory atop Mount Washington, and to use this unique station and other facilities to conduct programs of environmental observation and technical research.

Jakob Odell, data system programmer for the observatory, said, "We have a network of eight different temperature monitoring stations located at various locations around Mount Washington. Each station has a Campbell Scientific 107 Temperature Probe, a Campbell Scientific CR10X Measurement and Control Module, a Campbell Scientific MSX 10 or 20 Watt Solar Panel, a Campbell Scientific PS100 12 Volt Power Supply with Charging Regulator, and a FreeWave Wireless Data Transmitter Radio (FGR-115RC) with a 900 MHZ antenna.

"Vista Data Vision software from Vista Engineering is used to manage and display the data. The ability to access the MySQL database from external queries, and not just through the data browser, has enabled us to display data on our web site and custom displays that are found in several locations in the area. I have received many emails from people who love seeing the temperatures at different elevations, and VDV is what makes continuously updating this page possible.

"We needed a way to quickly and easily monitor these files for changes, and compile a database so that we could watch temperature trends at different elevations, as well as the ability to access historical data for scientific studies.

"Vista Data Vision has helped us by alleviating the work of having to design a custom interface to accumulate and store data. While we have not yet made full use of the superb, web-enabled graphs, the ability to monitor the rise or fall of temperatures over time over the web has been a useful aid in certain occasions when deciding on important summit matters."

Case Study Summary

Application
Extreme temperature monitoring and displaying

Location
New Hampshire, USA

Products Used
CR10X, 107, PS100

Contributors
Vista Engineering

Participating Organizations
Mount Washington Observatory

Measured Parameters
Air temperature

Related Websites
Mount Washington Observatory

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Campbell Scientific, Inc. | 815 W 1800 N | Logan, UT 84321-1784 | (435) 227-9120 | www.campbellsci.com
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