

for the FAA-sponsored Juneau Wind Project, Bob Barron of the Research Applications Program hopes to give travelers a smoother, safer ride. Bob and his colleagues are developing a prototype warning system that issues up-to-the-minute alerts about wind shear and turbulence to air traffic controllers, airline dispatchers, and pilots. The goal is to warn pilots in time to prevent injuries to passengers and crew. RAP designed a similar system that's operating at Hong Kong's Chek Lap Kok. It's great that NCAR can use its scientific and technical expertise to contribute to society on this day-to-day operational level, says RAP's Bob Barron and Deirdre Garvey. The RAP team used anemometers and wind profilers to set up the Juneau warning system. The devices use vector mathematics to create a comprehensive picture of surrounding winds and to determine the danger these winds pose to airplanes and passengers. A wind profiler is an upward-looking radar that can measure turbulence, wind speed, and wind direction. It gives researchers a profile of horizontal winds and turbulence at 60-meter (200-foot) increments up to about 2.5 kilometers (1.5 miles). An anemometer also measures