

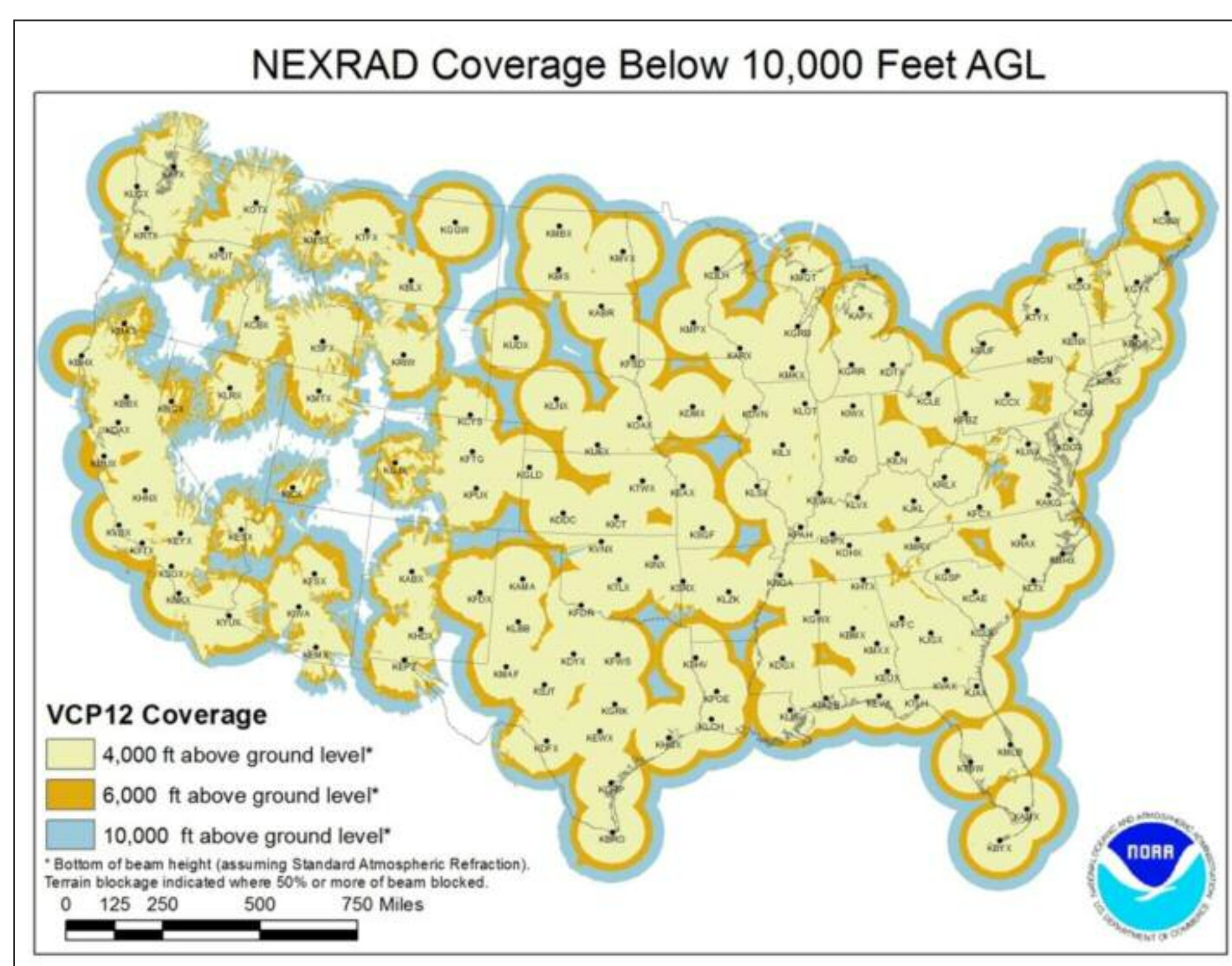
Radar, Hurricanes & Unisys on the Evening Weather Report



Above: Two pictures of the WSR-88D NEXRAD system being installed in Chanhassen, MN, in 1994. The project was headed up by the Great Neck, NY, division of the company with several key portions of the system (including the digital signal processor) were designed in Eagan, MN.

While Sperry UNIVAC and its successor, Unisys, primarily produced computers for the U.S. Military, they also produced many systems for other government agencies. One such project was a doppler weather radar system, also known as Next Generation Radar (NEXRAD) which was produced for the National Weather Service. Begun in 1980 while the company was still Sperry, the system was engineered to provide real-time information about the size, intensity, direction, and wind speed of a storm.

Right: A map of the completed NEXRAD installations in the contiguous United States. There are two installations in Minnesota (including KMPX - the Twin Cities weather radar) and over 150 total in the U.S.



*Every time
we look at
storms with
this system,
we see more
information.*

Joe Friday, Jr.
Former Director,
National Weather
Service

From: *There's More to
NEXRAD Than Meets
the Eye* by Ray Artz

Below: A radar image of Hurricane Andrew hitting the coast of Florida in August of 1992. NEXRAD radar allowed forecasters to accurately predict the path of the storm, with officials evacuating the threatened areas.

