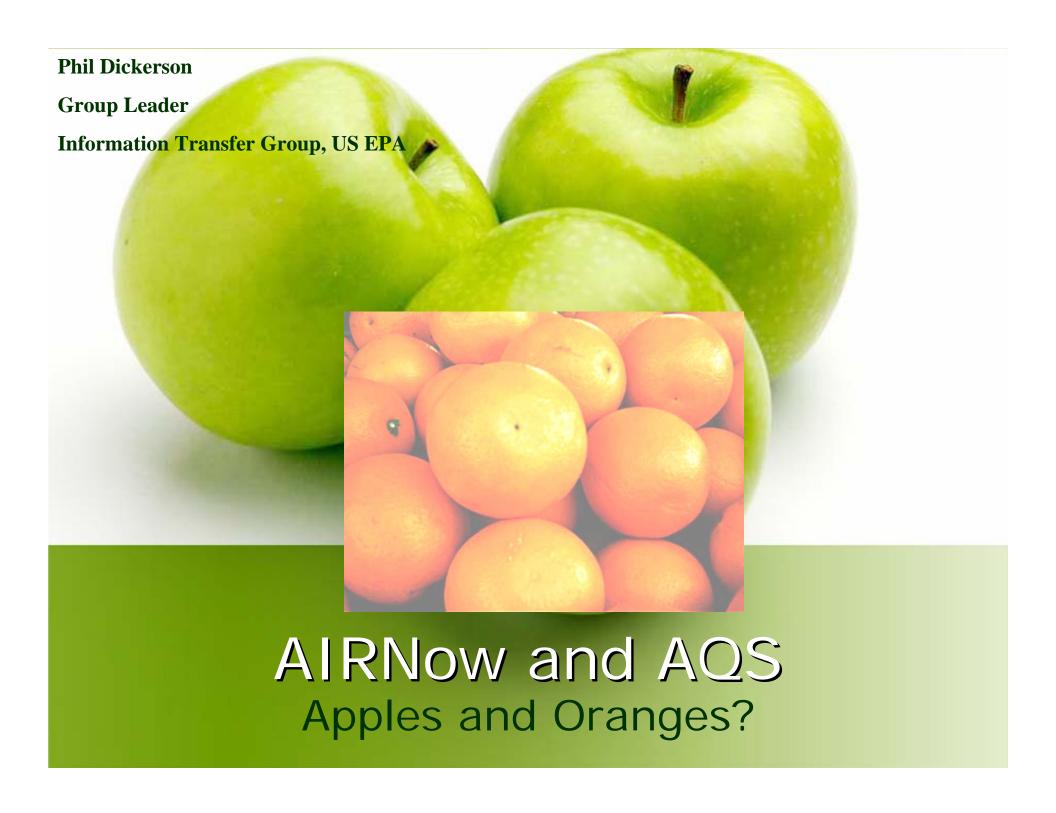


AIRNow and AQS May-December Romance?





...and other mysteries of AIRNow -- explored

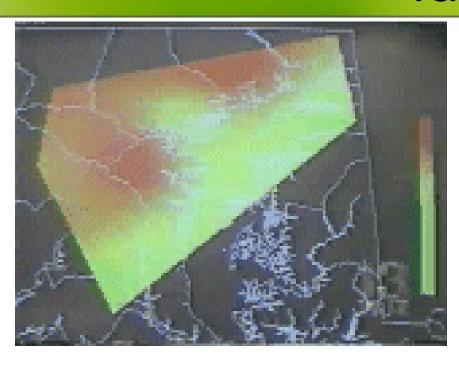


Outline

- Brief History of AIRNow
- Briefer history of AQS
- What is the relationship?
- AIRNow and AQS differences and similarities
- AIRNow Tools and Resources
- Will the two become one?



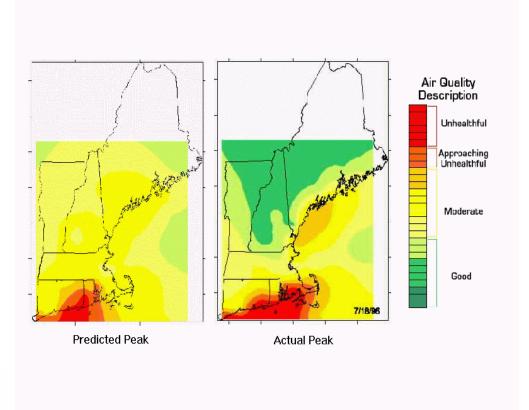
1995 – A napkin, a cocktail, an idea...



- Maryland MDE, ALA-Maryland
- 2 Cities (Baltimore, D.C.)
- 1 Map
- Updated daily



1996 – Regional Maps and Forecasts

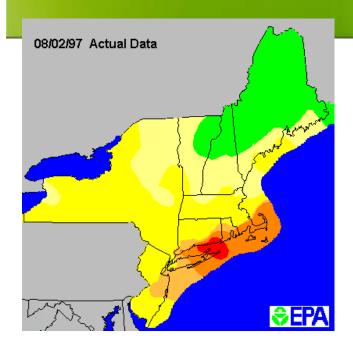


- -EPA Region I & NESCAUM
- -6 New England States
- -1 Peak Map
- -Based on 1-hour standard
- -Updated periodically
- -Regional Forecast Map

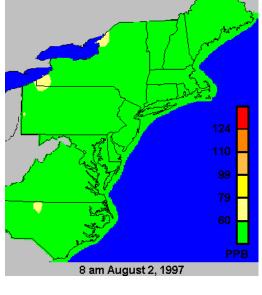


July 18, 1996

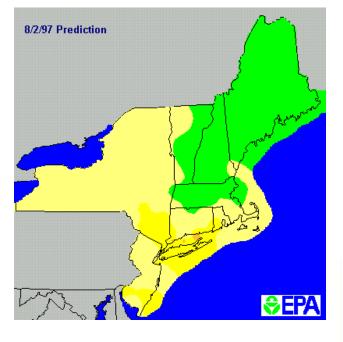
1997 - "Production"



1-hr Peak Maps



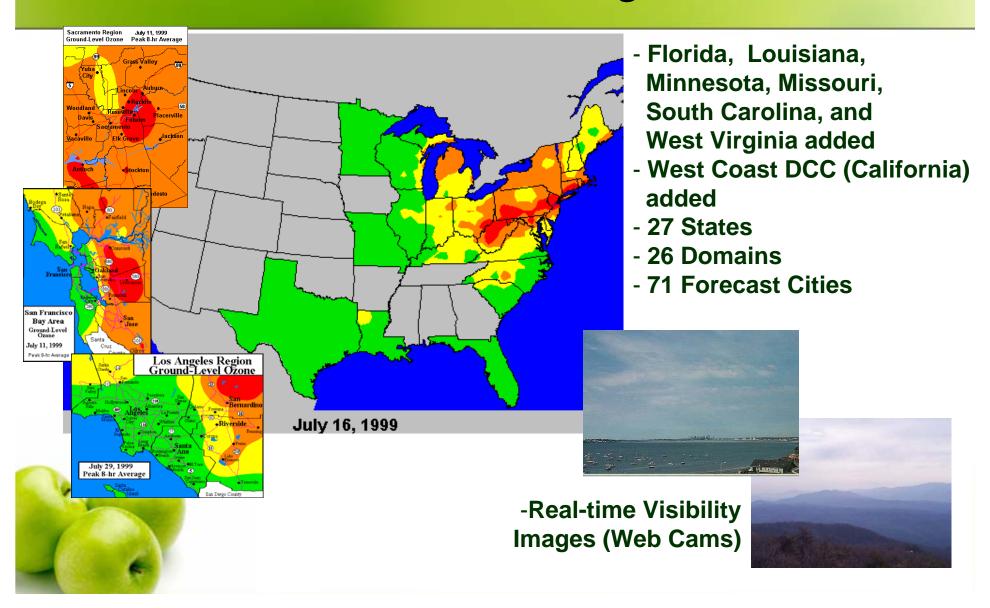
1-hr Animations



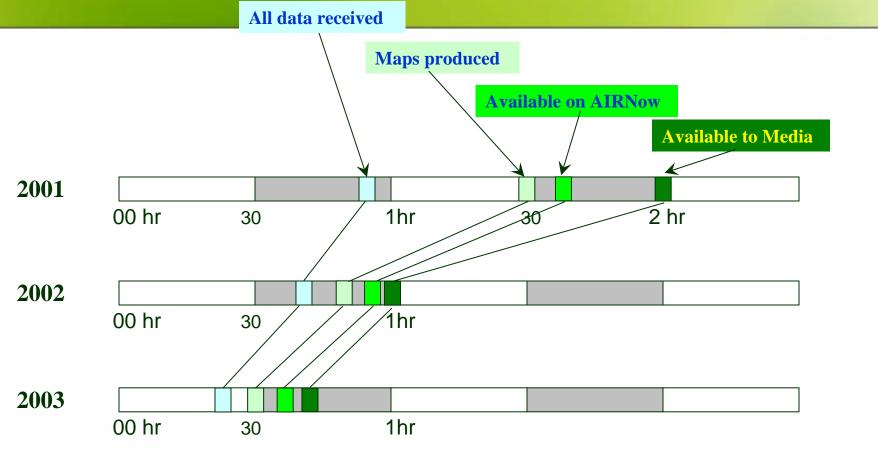
1-hr Peak Forecast Maps



1999 - The Early Years



Hourly Timeline of DIMC activities





A briefer history of AQS

 Pre-1991: I wasn't here, so who knows? Some old mainframe thingie

Late 1990s: AIRS Re-engineering

2002: AQS goes into production



What is the relationship?



What is the relationship?





Completely out of scale?

What is the relationship?





Supportive and nurturing, despite great differences in size and strength.

Differences and Similarities

Focus

- AQS is now and will likely always be, the official regulatory repository for air quality data
- AIRNow is a public information system, using real time data and forecasts to help the public make decisions to protect their health
- Same basic data...different timeliness



Differences and Similarities

- Architecture/Hosting
 - AIRNow: Off-site, not at EPA NCC
 - AQS: EPA NCC
- Organization
 - AIRNow My group, Information Transfer
 - AQS Ed Lillis' National Air Data Group
- Grammatical constructs
 - They like acronyms AQS, POC, PARS, ...
 - We like combining words to form non-words: AIRNow, AIRNow Tech, EnviroFlash, MyAIRNow, etc.



Differences and Similarities

• AIRNow is NOT:

- A replacement source for air quality data
 - Once the data is in AQS, we send analysts to AQS
 - We only encourage use of AIRNow values where AQS values do not exist or are not yet reported
- A source of data for regulatory actions
 - Not supported in the CAA
 - Data not considered final, nor fully QA/QC-ed
- A competitor for monitoring data
 - Not every monitor is in AIRNow and AQS, but we hope to keep moving in that direction

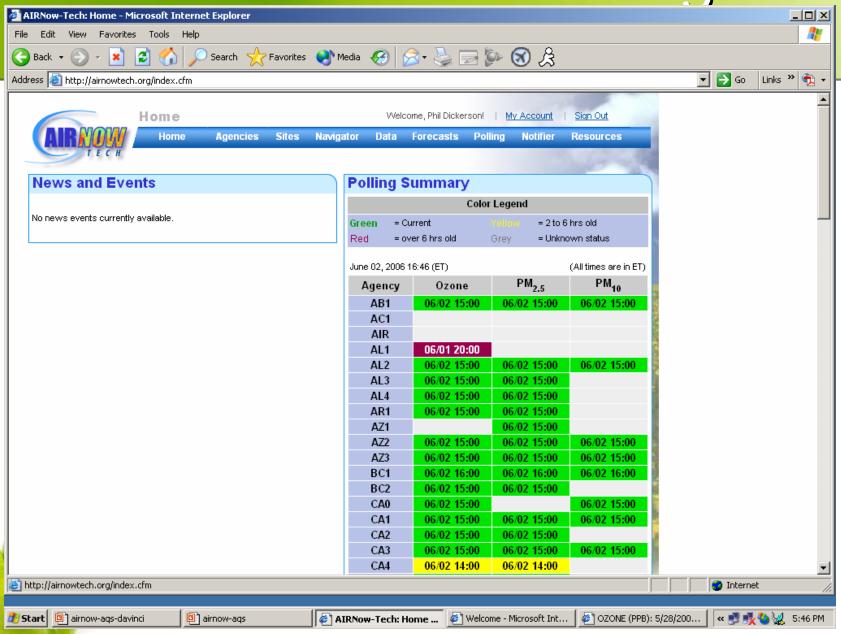


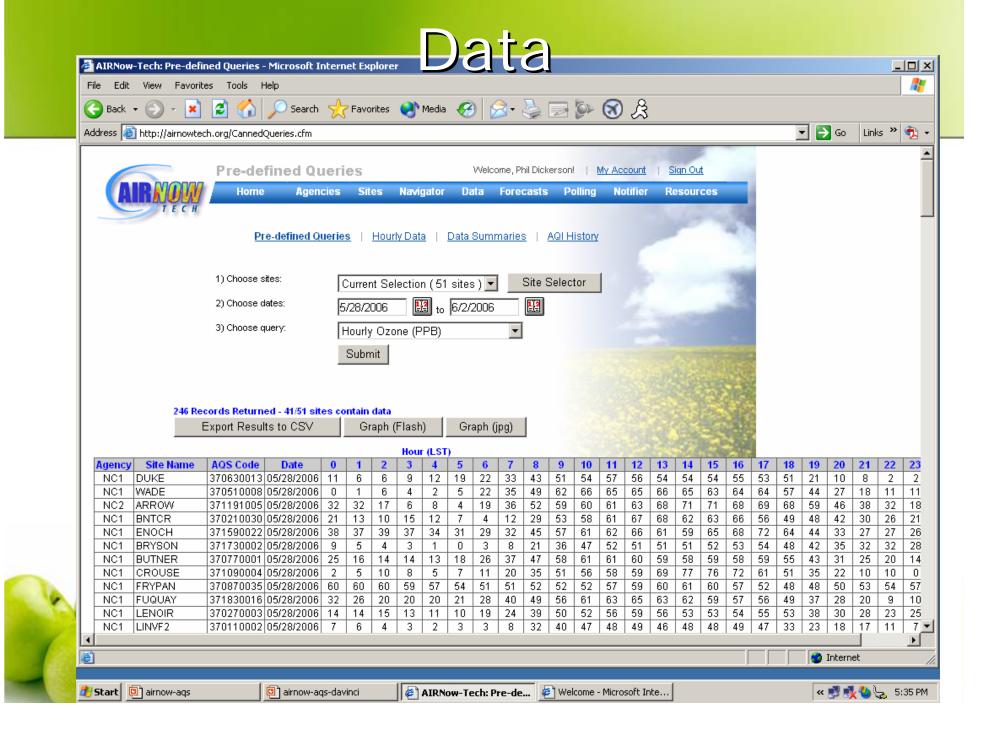
AIRNow Tools and Resources

- AIRNow Tech open to partners and their peers
 - Navigator
 - Data
 - Forecast Submittal System
 - More!
- EnviroFlash
- AIRNow Gateway

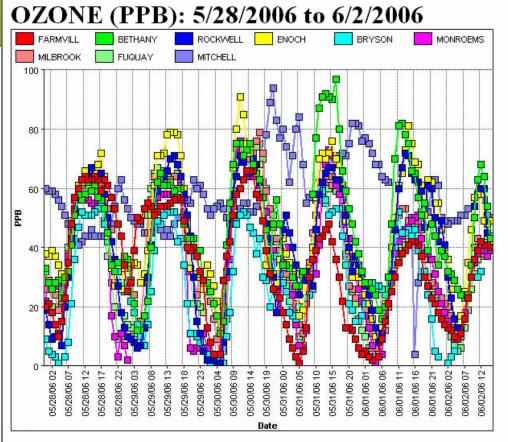


www.airnowtech.org



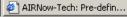


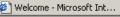
© DZONE (PPB): 5/28/2006 to 6/2/2006 - Microsoft Internet Explore Graphs







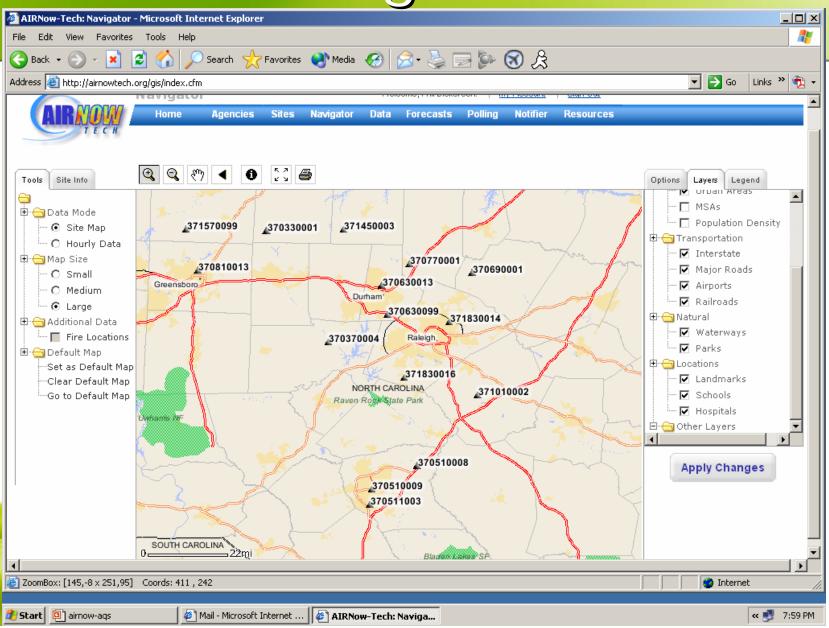








Navigator



EnviroFlash

- "Early Warning" system that alerts users when AQ forecast hits their target AQI level
- Currently available in nearly 60 cities across the US
- Many more joining soon



AIRNow Gateway

- Similar concept to AQS Data Mart
- "Copy" of AIRNow database
- Used to distribute data and products to the public, partners, media, etc.
- Will eventually be used to feed AIRNow data applications that hit the current production database – AIRNow Tech, AQS Data Mart, etc.



So, what's bringing us together?

- CDX
 - AQDE Project
 - National pilot??
- AQS Data Mart
- AIRNowTech
- Hurricanes Katrina and Rita



CDX and AQDE

- State environmental agencies of New Jersey, New York, and Delaware awarded an EPA challenge grant
- States will design and implement an Air Quality Data Exchange (AQDE), allowing each state to share their Air Quality data and in turn view other member states' data.
- Web based application which will allow the public to view air quality data across the three states in a geospatial format.



CDX and AQDE

- Adopted an AQS schema
- AIRNow team reviewed and agreed to use same schema
- Pilot underway to test submission to AIRNow and AQS, via CDX, with same schema!
- Will lay the groundwork for single submission of AQ data to AQS and AIRNow



CDX and AQDE

- Many details to work out
 - When data goes from "real time" to AQS certified
 - Who stores what, where?
- Still, in the long run, could greatly simplify data submission to EPA



AQS Data Mart

- Unifies AQS and AIRNow data, using AIRNow to fill reporting gaps
- May eventually tap the AIRNow database via web services and through CDX
- May provide services back to AIRNow to enhance AIRNow Tech



AirNow Tech

- In contrast to AQS data mart, AIRNow Tech harvests AQS data and uses it to replace preliminary data
- AQI History tool
- Will offer web service to supply AQS data mart



Hurricanes

- Rita and Katrina struck late summer 2005
- AIRNow quickly gathered real-time PM2.5 data via portable monitors, displayed on Katrina web site
- AQS handled the longer-term lab data and data from non-continuous instruments
- As EPA's response drew on, a Katrina Data Mart was built and used AQS as its primary source





AIRNow and AQS
A luscious fruit medley...

The End

- Questions
- Comments
- Concerns

 Feedback: was this helpful, should we do this again?

