



# American Meteorology Society Board of Private Sector Meteorologists



Webinar Series Presents

## Starting a Career in Meteorology

Panelist Discussion

Moderator: Pete Clement  
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BPSM Webinar Series  
19 Nov 2013  
03:00-04:00PM EST

# Agenda

- Welcome and Panelist Introduction 10 min
- Prepared Questions 30 min
- Open Questions and Answers 20 min
  - Using GotoMeeting's Questions Tool

This webinar will be recorded and made available to all registrants after the presentation.

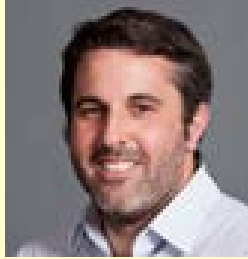
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**Mr. Brian Bastian**

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**Mr. Joshua Darr**

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**Mr. Nicholas Schiraldi**

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# Concluding Remarks

- Thank You
- Reminders and Notifications
  - Those Interested in Mentorship Program
    - Mentorship Committee will email those registrants
  - Webinar recording
    - Website location will be emailed to all registrants



# Panelists' Background

Matt Coleman



Mr. D. Matthew Coleman joined Nephila Advisors LLC in July 2011 as a Portfolio Analyst. His primary responsibilities include weather risk analysis, structuring support, and ongoing business development for Nephila's weather and natural catastrophe funds. Previously, Mr. Coleman spent four years as a Senior Weather Risk Analyst at Citadel LLC where he supported investments in energy, reinsurance, and weather derivatives. Mr. Coleman holds an MBA in Finance from the University of Virginia Darden School of Business, an M.S. in Meteorology from the Pennsylvania State University, and a B.S. in Chemistry and Environmental Sciences from the University of Virginia.

David Margolin



Dave provides the meteorological link between EarthRisk's customers and the company's analytic products. He develops EarthRisk's short-term research milestones and manages the internal research team. Prior to joining EarthRisk, he managed the U.S. Meteorology desk at Citadel Investment Group working with teams of investors on the equities and commodities markets. Dave has created forecast tools to predict severe freezes in Florida's citrus belt and profitable weather/natural gas trading strategies. Prior to his work at Citadel, Dave spent three years at Reliant Energy in Houston, TX where he supported power and natural gas trading. He also worked at The Weather Channel and AccuWeather. Dave is actively involved in the AMS where he serves as a Chairman of the Board of Private Sector Meteorologists (BPSM) and has been a mentor in the Mentorship program for the past three years. Dave has a Master's of Science from Florida State University.

Brian Bastian



Brian is Systems Engineer for the The SI Organization, an engineering firm specializing in full-lifecycle systems engineering and integration for the United State Intelligence Community, Department of Defense, and other civil agencies. Prior to working at The SI Organization, Brian was a Weather Risk Analyst for AccuWeather, Inc., has forecasted for ZedX, Inc., and supported the production of the Penn State Meteorology Department's 'Weather World' show. Brian is actively involved with the AMS Board of Private Sector Meteorology - serving as the Mentorship Program Committee Chairman . Additionally he serves as a Winter Weather Consultant for StormSurge LLC and writes for [LiveWeatherBlogs.com](http://LiveWeatherBlogs.com). Brian has B.S. in Meteorology from Penn State University (2012) with concentrations in weather risk management and finance. He is currently pursuing a Masters of Engineering in Systems Engineering.

Joshua Darr



Josh Darr has spent over a decade in the private sector with a desire to apply weather and climate information to risk management in a variety of fields. His career began in the insurance/reinsurance catastrophe modeling industry, employed by Risk Management Solutions, where he held a variety of roles in business consulting, personnel management, catastrophe response, and product management/marketing. Thereafter he spent over six years in the commodities sector working for Chesapeake Energy in both energy and agribusiness. Josh is also an Adjunct Professor at Northern Illinois University where he helps apply undergraduate and graduate research to private sector applications.

Nicholas Schiraldi



Nick received his undergraduate degree with honors from SUNY Albany in atmospheric science, with a minor in mathematics in May of 2012. After graduation, he enrolled in the PhD program at SUNY Albany working with undergraduate co-advisors, Dr. Paul Roundy and Dr. Lance Bosart. His research interests include advancing understanding of tropical/extra-tropical interactions as well their associated model biases, as well advancing understanding and prediction of agricultural drought and how well models can resolve the onset and breakdown of agricultural drought. Nick has a wide range of professional experience, including working as student intern at the National Weather Service in Albany, NY, as a researcher and forecaster at the International Center for Lightning Research and Technologies in Starke, Florida (under Dr. Vincent Idone), and more recently, working as a Research Collaborator with EarthRisk Technologies.