



# The 2017 RAOB Program Annual Award Winners

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The RAOB Annual Awards are given to individuals who make significant contributions to the advancement of the RAOB Program through suggested additions and new functions. Each winner receives a new 2018 RAOB Bundled Package.

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**1st Place Winner: Andy Devanas**  
**Science and Operations Officer (SOO) at NWS  
Key West, Florida.**

Andy wins the RAOB "Complete" program package. He developed the Key West (NWS) Florida waterspout probability estimate index (RAOB Index: Waterspout3).

**2nd Place Winner: Timothy Mathewson**  
**RMA Fire Weather Program Manager and BLM Fire  
Meteorologist-Incident Meteorologist,  
Lakewood, CO.**

Tim wins the RAOB "Operational" program package. He recommended expansion and standardization of PBL (Mixing Height) methodologies, including the addition of a user-configurable VAR (Ventilation Adjective Rating) system.

**3rd Place Winner: Gilbert Christoffel**  
**Aeronautical forecaster and warning supervisor,  
MeteoLux, Luxembourg.**

Gilbert wins the RAOB "Forecaster" program package. He suggested inclusion of the "Thermal Wind" profile option on the Sounding Toolbar and with the Fronts & Forecast module.