

A Vision for EOL's Design and Fabrication Services

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Vision Statement:

Design and Fabrication Services provides support to the national and international Earth observing research community through its design group, machine shop and logistics group. These services include.

- Support of field deployments in logistics for transport, set up and tear down of the S-Pol radar system.
- Support of instrument development and design from early concept to final configuration and deployment by providing very high level design capabilities utilizing the most up to date Computer Aided Design technologies.
- Fabrication of complex and sophisticated research instrumentation utilizing modern Computer Aided Machining software and Computer Numerical Controlled machining centers and other state of the art equipment.

DFS has been an integral part of instrument development for NCAR and the international university community since its inception in 1960. The group has evolved as demands for increasingly complex instrumentation have occurred. DFS will continue to adjust to meet the requirements of the organization and the community. As an active participant in the newly organized laboratory, DFS will by necessity, grow to meet the increased level of development activity that will be actively pursued by the new Technology Development Facility.

The reorganization provides an opportunity for the Logistics group to become more involved with the newly formed Field Support Facility. This increased involvement will enhance the site selection and site preparation activities of the new facility.

New challenges are anticipated as HIAPER comes on line and presents demands for a new level of sophistication in airborne remote and in-situ sensing instruments. In the short term, DFS will see increased activity in support of the HAIS instrument developments. In the long term, maintenance and upgrades to this new suite of instruments will bring additional demands to the skilled and highly trained staff.