

4 ways the Forward Scatter Sensor FD70 compares to human observation

Human observation is often in close agreement with the FD70, though distinguishing between snow and mixed rain-snow for example can be more challenging.

Identifying precipitation types

Thanks to Vaisala's patented measurement technology, FD70 can quickly identify mixed precipitation types such as rain and snow. High-resolution cameras have confirmed its accuracy in field tests.

Studies show that with conventional sensors, in 40% of times when METAR reports are amended by a human observer, it is because of false present weather information.

Reporting rapid changes during an event

Automatization is sometimes essential to reach operative needs, especially for rapidly-changing parameters. The FD70 can quickly identify and report in these conditions.

While precipitation is easy to identify in larger sizes, detecting type in smaller sizes becomes less accurate.

Droplet size classification

The FD70 accurately distinguishes between drizzle and rain, detecting all particles as small as 0.1mm.

The human eye can generally detect the onset and end of precipitation, but may miss precise timing.

Pinpointing the onset and end of an event

The FD70 never sleeps. It reports the beginning and end of an event from several minutes to more than half an hour earlier than human observation.