



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Wallace Engineering Receives 2008 ACEC Engineering Excellence Honor Award**

**January 2008 TULSA, Oklahoma** -- Wallace Engineering received the 2008 Engineering Excellence Honor Award by the American Council of Engineering Companies of Oklahoma for its design of the National Weather Center in Norman, Oklahoma.

The new six-story, \$69 million National Weather Center is home to a unique partnership between the University of Oklahoma and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. This federal/state/university facility brings together the best of the nation's weather research, forecasting and educational agencies, including the National Severe Storms Laboratory, the National Weather Service and the OU School of Meteorology. This partnership has created technology responsible for saving thousands of lives, has produced some of the world's foremost authorities on radar development and application and continues to yield many research breakthroughs that are underpinning entirely new areas of radar capability.

The interior of the National Weather Center is a myriad of classrooms, laboratories, control rooms and computer centers. The University of Oklahoma and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration wanted to be able to continue to view storms from their laboratories in the event that a severe storm was targeting the building. The building is, after all, the National Weather Center. Selected laboratories in the building were designed to resist wind loads of 150 mph and were hardened against wind-borne missile impact, resulting in areas that are adequate to resist an F2 tornado. In the event

that a larger storm is imminent, the staff can take shelter in the large auditorium on the first level, which is a partial basement. The National Weather Center is a unique collaboration. At the dedication of the facility, Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry stated: "We are set on making Oklahoma the research capitol of the plains. The National Weather Center is anchor of this plan."

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### **About Wallace Engineering**

Founded in 1981, Wallace Engineering is ranked as one of the top structural engineering firms in the United States. Based in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the firm has since grown to include additional offices in Kansas City, Missouri, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and Castle Rock, Colorado; sixteen principals and a combined staff of over one hundred fifty people. Wallace Engineering has personnel registered as Professional Engineers in all fifty states, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia. Wallace Engineering is located at 200 East Brady Street.

For more information, please visit [www.wallacesc.com](http://www.wallacesc.com)