



NOAA Emerging Technologies Workshop

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Oceans Session Chair



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(OAR/OER)**

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

Alan Leonardi is the Director of NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research (OER). A key element of the OER portfolio is the expeditionary exploration activities, which combine the NOAA ship Okeanos Explorer and high-speed networks and infrastructure for live communications—including high-definition video of the seafloor—to scientists and other audiences ashore. It is the only federal program dedicated to systematic, telepresence-enabled exploration of the world's ocean.

A meteorologist and oceanographer, Leonardi has been with NOAA since 2003. Previous roles include coordinator for NOAA's Environmental Modeling Program; environmental modeling program manager for NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research; deputy director of policy, planning and evaluation within OAR headquarters; and deputy director of NOAA's Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory.

He earned his undergraduate degree in meteorology from the University of Wisconsin, and his master's and doctorate degrees in physical oceanography from Florida State University.