



# Safer transport for patients, medical teams, and flight crews

Air Methods, Medford, Oregon

**"Weather is the most  
significant, dynamic risk in  
our flight regime."**

Air Methods

As America's leader in air medical transportation, Air Methods has provided life-saving services and emergency air medical care to mortally wounded and critically ill patients since 1980. The company employs more than 5,000 teammates, logging 150,000 flight hours and completing 100,000 patient transports each year.

**DTH**<sup>o</sup>

**"AviationSentry Online gives us expertly provided situational awareness of the weather environment in which we operate. It shows us where our weather blind spots are."**

### **What they were up against.**

Weather changes all the time. That's why aviation professionals at Air Methods need to understand all weather risks, including those that change once a pilot departs for a flight. Merely knowing where the clouds are isn't enough; they need to know about all significant weather events — convective activity, turbulence, hail, lightning, etc. — occurring within the vicinity of storms.

Before DTN, Air Methods used an older, custom flight management system (FMS) built in-house to try to understand these weather risks. Unfortunately, the aged system was insufficient and no longer supported, which led Air Methods to search out alternatives. Enter DTN AviationSentry®.

### **What we did to help.**

To manage its diverse flight management needs, Air Methods chose AviationSentry Online Platinum Edition from aviation weather leader DTN. As a dedicated, internet-based weather system, AviationSentry Online gives pilots and aviation teams real-time access to comprehensive, operational weather information, so they can better protect passengers, staff, and assets.

### **What the impact was.**

Air Methods credits AviationSentry Online with giving them the level of weather detail and accuracy they need for safer flight operations. Air Methods' operational control specialists and dispatch services feed flight plans for every flight — more than 50 per hour all around the U.S. — into AviationSentry Online, so they can monitor the progress of a flight once it departs, then compare the flight path with any dynamic weather risk that may present itself.

The operational control center at Air Methods also uses Aviation Sentry Online to evaluate and approve 17,000 risk assessments every month. In addition, AviationSentry Online was pushed out to more than 300 Air Methods bases around the country, so those remote teams easily can access the tool's weather planning tools on their own desktops.