

S'COOL E-note July 2011 E-note (Number 59)

Greetings from the S'COOL Team! Welcome to Issue 59 of the S'COOL E-note.

Included in this month's issue:

- 1. Reminder! Upcoming website maintenance and outage**
- 2. S'COOL featured in NSTA Science Scope journal**
- 3. What are "hole-punch" clouds?**

1. Reminder! Upcoming website maintenance and outage

In the next few weeks, the [S'COOL website](#) will be undergoing maintenance during which the website, including the on-line report form, will be unavailable. The website outage is tentatively planned for August 2011. As soon as the specific dates are available, there will be a message on the website. Please continue your observations during this time!! Just save the observations and report them when the website is once again available.

2. S'COOL featured in NSTA Science Scope journal

The article, "*Cloud Study Investigators: Using NASA's CERES S'COOL in Problem-Based Learning*", appears in the Summer 2011 edition of NSTA's [Science Scope](#) journal. The article was co-authored by Susan Moore (S'COOL team) and Gary Popiolkowski, S'COOL participant and middle school science teacher from Houston, PA. The article is available to NSTA members by logging into the [NSTA website](#) .

3. What are "hole-punch" clouds?

Here is another reason why your S'COOL contrail observations are important! Scientists are answering the question, "What are hole-punch clouds?", and are studying their possible effect on local precipitation. "Scientists, photographers and amateur cloud watchers have been looking up with wonderment and puzzlement at "hole punch" clouds for decades. Giant, open spaces appear in otherwise continuous cloud cover, presenting beautiful shapes but also an opportunity for scientific investigation. A new paper published last week in Science inquires into how the holes get punched – airplanes are the culprit – and into the potential for the phenomenon's link to increased precipitation around major airports. "[\(NASA.gov website article\)](#)"

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