

# Microradiometers Reveal Ocean Health, Climate Change



***Goddard Space Flight Center***

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## **NASA Technology**

- ◆ Ocean color can indicate the quantities and distribution of phytoplankton—microscopic plants whose wellbeing is critical to the sea's health.
- ◆ NASA wanted to improve on its ocean color satellites so that important changes in the sea can be studied and validated.

## **Technology Transfer**

- ◆ Through Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) funding, Biospherical Instruments developed cost-effective “microradiometers,” small narrow tubes with sensors that collect data underwater.
- ◆ Sensors can collect a range of information, including temperature and light measurements, that can enrich understanding of the world's diverse ocean ecosystems.

## **Benefits**

- ◆ Because of its NASA work, Biospherical Instruments has sold the technology to researchers from many countries and has procured \$2 million in contracts.
- ◆ In partnership with Ames Research Center, the company has recently adapted its microradiometers to fly in aircraft and conduct atmospheric research.

