

The Statewide Committee for Research honors Alaska's

# Northern Innovators



Right now, there are at least 6,000 planes in the skies above our planet. More than 1 million people are moving a few hundred miles an hour, at heights from a few to 40,000 feet, heading somewhere. The ability to move across the country in less than a day is part of modern life. Volcanic ash is one of the few forces of nature that interferes with it.

In 1989, a 747 landing at Ted Stevens International Airport in Anchorage

from the university and develop new intellectual property.

The aviation community and other transportation industry planners wishing to avoid putting their infrastructure and personnel at risk have the option of purchasing and obtaining access to online "decision support software," available from Webley's company: Volcanic Ash Detection, Avoidance, and Preparedness for Transportation (V-ADAPT), Inc.

He has also developed other software for

remote sensing group at the University of Alaska's Geophysical Institute developed novel tools to predict the drift of volcanic ash and assess its impact on daily operations. Building on more than 20 years of monitoring volcanoes and improving tools to track ash clouds, the University of Alaska Fairbanks associate research professor helped develop one of the first companies to be spun o