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Banner Clouds at Zugspitze Mountain in Germany

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Banner clouds are clouds which form on the Lee side of ridges or mountains. Well known ist the cloud at the Matterhorn mountain in Switzerland. Since one would expect that the air is raised equally on both sides of the mountain a cloud should form on both sides. In contrast hereto banner clouds appear only at the lee side.

Zugspitze mountain in Germany is served from two sides by cablecars. This unique situation enables the investigation of the formation, dynamics and thermodynamics of banner clouds. Both cablecars were equipped with meteorological instruments. A description of this instrumentation and first results will be shown.