

Glossary

- 62nd Airlift Wing** Provides C-17 aircraft support to the U.S. Antarctic Program; headquartered at Joint Base Lewis-McChord.
- 109th Airlift Wing** Division of the New York Air National Guard that supports the U.S. Antarctic Program.
- 139th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (EAS)** Designation of the 109th Airlift Wing when deployed.
- 304th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (EAS)** Designation of the 62nd Airlift Wing when deployed.
- 500th Air Expeditionary Group (500 EAG)** Commands all LC-130 and C-17 activities and personnel in New Zealand and Antarctica.
- ACA** Antarctic Conservation Act.
- ACL** Allowable Cabin Load. Payload of aircraft. Calculations based upon take-off, landing restrictions, range, weather, fuel requirements, etc.
- AFRTS** American Forces Radio and Television Service.
- AIL** Antarctic Infrastructure and Logistics. NSF Division of Polar Programs functional work group.
- AIMS** Antarctic Infrastructure Modernization for Science.
- AMC** Air Mobility Command, U.S. Air Force.
- ANG** Air National Guard, U.S. Air Force Reserve Component.
- ANT** NSF Division of Polar Programs functional work group managing research grants.
- AOD** Airport of Departure.
- APHIS** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- APO** Army and Air Force Post Office.
- APT** Antarctic Passenger Terminal at the International Antarctic Center in Christchurch, New Zealand.
- ASC** Antarctic Support Contract. The primary logistical support contractor to the USAP, managed by Leidos.
- ASMA** Antarctic Specially Managed Area.
- ASPA** Antarctic Specially Protected Area.
- ATO** Antarctic Terminal Operations. Division of ASC that manages the movement of passengers and cargo.
- Bag Drag** Similar to check-in with commercial airlines. Passengers are weighed and checked for ECW gear, carry-on bags are approved, and bags are palletized for transport.
- BEST Recycling** ASC teammate that provides waste and recycling services to the USAP.
- BFC** Berg Field Center. The McMurdo building contains tents, sleeping bags and other field camp equipment.
- Bio** Palmer Station building containing the biology laboratory.
- BizOps** Business Operations. ASC functional work group overseeing finance and budget.
- Boomerang** A flight that departs and returns to its origin, due to weather or maintenance considerations.
- Bumped** Refers to cargo or passengers that is/are removed from a flight due to weight restrictions or other considerations.
- C-17** A U.S. Air Force aircraft used for transporting cargo and personnel between New Zealand and McMurdo.
- CDC** Clothing Distribution Center located in Christchurch, N.Z.
- Chalet** Building that houses NSF and ASC headquarters staff at McMurdo Station, Antarctica.
- CHC or CHCH** Acronym for Christchurch. Pronounced “cheech.”
- Clean Air Sector** Area upwind from the South Pole Station that is not contaminated by exhaust fumes from station activity.
- COMAIR** Commercial airline transport.
- COMNAP** Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs.
- COMSUR** Commercial surface vessel transport.
- Communications** ASC functional work group overseeing publications, media relations, technical editing, education outreach, photo archiving and USAP-related news stories.
- Condition One** Weather condition when visibility is less than 100 ft., wind is greater than 55 knots, or wind chill is greater than -100°F.
- Condition Three** Weather condition better than Condition Two.
- Condition Two** Weather condition when wind speed is between 48-55 knots, or visibility is less than 1/4 mile, but greater than 100 ft., or wind chill is greater than -75°F, but less than -100°F.
- Continental Area** The part of the U.S. Antarctic Program that includes McMurdo Station, South Pole and field camps (not the Peninsula area).
- CONUS** Continental United States.
- CSEC** Cray Science and Engineering

- Center. Laboratory at McMurdo Station. Also known as Building One, or Crary Lab.
- Damco** ASC teammate providing cargo logistics and Punta Arenas operations.
- Dark Sector** Area near the South Pole Station that is not contaminated by light pollution.
- Deployment** Initial passenger transport from airport of departure to destination.
- DNF** Do Not Freeze.
- DoD** Department of Defense.
- DV** Distinguished Visitor.
- ECO** Edison Chouest Offshore LLC. The company that owns and operates the two USAP research vessels.
- ECW** Extreme Cold Weather. Used in reference to the special clothing/equipment issued to U.S. Antarctic Program participants.
- Event Number** A number identifying a science group that has received funding from NSF to perform research in Antarctica.
- FAR** Federal Acquisition Regulations.
- FMC** Facilities, Maintenance, Construction, ASC functional area.
- Gana-A' Yoo (GSC)** ASC teammate providing lodging, recreation, food service, retail and postal service for the USAP.
- Genetically Modified Organism (GMO)** Any organism in which any of the genes or genetic material has been modified by in vitro techniques.
- GHG Corporation** ASC teammate providing most of the on-ice IT and communications support.
- Grantee** A scientist who has received a grant from the NSF.
- GWR** Palmer Station building containing the garage, warehouse and recreation.
- Herbie** Term used to describe a storm with fierce, blowing wind and/or snow.
- HR** Human Resources.
- IAC** International Antarctic Center, Christchurch, New Zealand.
- Ice** Slang term for Antarctica. Usage: "I'm going to the Ice."
- IGY** International Geophysical Year, 1957-1958.
- Implementers** The people who work most closely with science projects in Antarctica.
- IT&C** Information Technology and Communications. ASC functional work group overseeing telecommunications and computers.
- JSOC** Joint Space Operations Center; a building in McMurdo.
- KBA** Kenn Borek Air, Ltd. The company that provides small fixed-wing aircraft, pilots and support.
- Kiwi** Nickname that refers to New Zealanders.
- Land-line** Describes a regular telephone line compared to broadcast radio conversation.
- LC-130** A ski-equipped, four-engine Lockheed Hercules turboprop airplane.
- Leidos** The prime contractor supporting the USAP, managing the group of companies known as Antarctic Support Contract (ASC).
- LMG** Research support vessel called the *Laurence M. Gould*.
- LTER** Long Term Ecological Research.
- MPI** Ministry of Primary Industries, New Zealand.
- Mainbody** The period of time between October and February when the majority of USAP activity occurs.
- MCC** Movement Control Center, McMurdo Station, Antarctica.
- MEC** Mechanical Equipment Center, McMurdo Station, Antarctica.
- Medevac** Medical evacuation of a patient.
- Milvan** Vernacular for cargo containers used for shipping and storing supplies.
- MOGAS** Motor automotive gasoline.
- MPC** Marine project coordinator.
- MPSM** McMurdo, Palmer, South Pole Modernization.
- MSC** Military Sealift Command.
- NBP** Research support vessel called the *Nathaniel B. Palmer*.
- NGO** Non-governmental organization.
- NPQ** Not physically qualified.
- NSF** National Science Foundation, the agency of the U.S. government that manages the U.S. Antarctic Program.
- NYANG** New York Air National Guard.
- NZAP** New Zealand Antarctic Programme.
- NZDF** New Zealand Defence Force.
- OAE** Old Antarctic Explorer. A reference to an experienced Antarctic program participant.
- Operations** ASC functional work group overseeing vehicle fleet maintenance and operation, fuels, fire department, station services, and recycling.
- PA** Abbreviation for Punta Arenas, Chile; a staging area for Peninsula operations.
- PAE** ASC teammate providing infrastructure, operations, transportation and logistical support for the USAP.
- PAE New Zealand** ASC teammate providing Christchurch operations.
- Pax** Vernacular for passenger/s.
- Pegasus** A runway on permanent ice near McMurdo Station that accommodates wheeled airplanes.
- PESH** Polar Environment, Safety and Health. A group within the NSF Division of Polar

Programs responsible for environmental, safety and health issues.

Peninsula Area The part of the U.S. Antarctic Program that includes Palmer Station, R/V *Laurence M. Gould*, and other operations in the Antarctic Peninsula area.

PHI The company providing helicopters, pilots and helicopter support.

Phoenix A runway on compressed snow near McMurdo Station that accommodates wheeled airplanes.

PI Principal Investigator: Team leader or scientist in charge of a funded research project.

Planning and Controls ASC functional work group overseeing cost and labor scheduling.

PMO Program Management Office, ASC functional group that oversees the prime contract.

Professional Services Professional Services, an ASC functional work group that provides engineering oversight.

POC Point of contact.

POLAR ICE Participant On-Line Antarctic Resource Information Coordination Environment. A web-based data collection and dissemination system designed to capture and administer all relevant support requirements for scientific research in Antarctica.

PQ'd or PQ Physically Qualified.

PSR Point of Safe Return.

PtH Abbreviation for Port Hueneme, CA, the port through which most USAP cargo passes.

Radioisotopes A radioactive isotope used by scientists.

Redeployment Passenger transport from destination to origin.

Retrograde To return cargo from the field to McMurdo Station, or from McMurdo to destinations north. Usually in the reverse order of its initial deployment.

RNZAF Royal New Zealand Air Force.

ROS Required on site date, usually expressed as a Julian calendar date.

RSP Research Support Plan. The planned support to be provided for a science project.

SAAM Special Assignment Airlift Mission, a mission supported by U.S. Antarctic Program AMC at the request of the NSF.

SAR Search and Rescue.

SCAR Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, of the International Council of Scientific Unions, a nongovernmental organization.

Science Planners ASC personnel in Arlington, VA, who work with science groups to plan their research season.

S&TPS Science and Technical Project Services. ASC functional work group that works with scientists to ensure their research requirements are met.

SFA Support Forces Antarctica. The tactical operational name given to U.S. military activities in Antarctica.

SIP Support Information Package, a listing of the resources requested by the grantees to complete their research.

SOPP SPAWAR Office of Polar Programs. Agency that provides weather forecasting and air traffic control services for the USAP.

SPoT South Pole Traverse.

SSC Science Support Center, a building in McMurdo containing the MEC and field safety instructors.

SUREPA Senior U.S. Representative, Antarctica, appointed by the director of NSF to oversee U.S. government activities in Antarctica.

T&L Transportation and Logistics, an ASC functional work group overseeing cargo and passenger transport, and inventory management.

USAF United States Air Force.

U.S. Antarctic Program (USAP) United States Antarctic Program, the U.S. government's program, administered by the National Science Foundation, for research and related activities regarding Antarctica.

USAP Airlift Refers to the scheduled movement of cargo and passengers from Christchurch to McMurdo

USCG United States Coast Guard.

USGS United States Geological Survey.

University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) ASC teammate providing medical qualifications and telemedicine services.

V-event A visitor, approved by the NSF, for visiting U.S. Antarctic Program locations.

Vessel A ship. Often refers to the annual resupply ship or to research vessels.

VHF Very high frequency: VHF radios are used locally around stations and ships.

VMF Acronym for the Vehicle Maintenance Facility, also known as the heavy shop.

Winfly Vernacular for "winter fly-in." Usually occurring in late August.

Williams Field Skiway A snow skiway airport located near McMurdo Station.

Winter Verb to winter: to spend the austral winter season at a U.S. Antarctic Program station.