



## CHANGES IN 2012-2013 for ASC PERSONNEL

### New Contractor

Lockheed Martin is the contractor supporting the U.S. Antarctic Program and we are known as Antarctic Support Contract, or ASC. Several teammates are joining ASC as partners:

Lockheed Martin	ASC program management; Science planning
Best Recycling	Waste
DAMCO	Cargo; Port Hueneme operations; Punta Arenas operations
Gana-A'Yoo (GSC)	Housing; Food & Beverage; Recreation; Retail; Post Office
GHG Corporation	IT and Comms
PAE	Infrastructure and Operations; Transportation and Logistics
PAE New Zealand	Christchurch operations
SecureInfo	Information Security
University of Texas Medical Branch	Medical, Dental, Psych PQs; Telemedicine

Regardless of which teammate does the hiring, you are an ASC employee. Denver remains the headquarters; phone numbers and emails remain the same for the most part.

### Medical

The University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) has assumed all medical responsibilities, including Physical Qualifications (PQ). PQ questions can be directed to [medical@usap.gov](mailto:medical@usap.gov) or 1-855-300-9704.

### Orientation

- Orientation for McMurdo and South Pole will be in partly in Christchurch, partly on the Ice. You'll have less free time in Christchurch.
- Since there is no Orientation in Denver, we'll mail travel documents to your home address once you're PQ'd. Luggage tags, visa letters, etc....

### Ticketing

Tickets are purchased based on the information submitted on your travel forms. Please contact the ASC Travel Office if your situation changes.

### Travel Funds

Each teammate (PAE, Gana-A'Yoo, etc.) handles travel funds according to their own policies and procedures. Contact your Hiring Manager if you have questions and be prepared to incur some costs en route – a credit card is your best option.

The same applies to other reimbursements such as passports and boots.

### QANTAS

As of this writing, QANTAS no longer services the Los Angeles - Auckland route. Be prepared to fly through Australia.

## **Travelex**

Travelex in New Zealand no longer offers currency exchange discounts to USAP participants. You can of course still exchange money at Travelex, but you will pay the same rates and fill out the same paperwork as other travelers.

## **Baggage Allowance for Winterovers**

McMurdo and South Pole winterovers were previously allowed three bags on the commercial flight(s) to Christchurch. This season, winterovers are limited to two bags of up to 70 pounds (32kg) each. You may bring excess but it is not reimbursed by the program.

## **South America**

- DAMCO is the new agent in Punta Arenas, replacing AGUNSA.
- The Chilean Entrance fee increased from US\$140 to US\$160.

## **Finance**

- You can no longer cash personal checks on the Ice. However, you can still obtain cash via payroll Remote Cash Disbursements (RCDs) at McMurdo and South Pole. RCDs are *not* available at Palmer.
- McMurdo has a Wells Fargo ATM.
- Palmer is now cashless. The Palmer store accepts Visa and MasterCard.

## **Travel to/from the Ice**

- Travelocity Business is the Program's new travel agent.
- Once a redeployment date is confirmed, ASC Travel will book return travel to your Airport of Departure. ASC Travel may be able to accommodate certain requests for personal/leisure travel if the cost does not exceed the cost of Programmatic travel and if the request is made within 30 days after redeploying.
- If you wish to change dates or routing for personal/leisure travel, it is your responsibility to contact Travelocity Business or the airline(s) or other carriers directly to implement such changes; you incur any and all additional fees, penalties or fare differences.
- If the scheduled flight from McMurdo to Christchurch, or the vessel's arrival at Punta Arenas, is delayed or cancelled (for weather, mechanical or any other reason), ASC Travel will only assist with rebooking return travel to your Airport of Departure. If such delays impact your personal/leisure travel, it is your responsibility to contact Travelocity Business or the airline(s) or other carriers directly to reschedule; you incur any and all additional fees, penalties or fare differences.
- For this reason, it is highly recommended you delay planning personal/leisure travel until off the Ice.