

Glossary

- 62nd Airlift Wing** Provides C-17 aircraft support to the US Antarctic Program; headquartered at McChord Air Force Base.
- 109th Airlift Wing** Division of the New York Air National Guard that supports the US 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.
- ACPB** Air Cargo Priority Board.
- AFRTS** American Forces Radio and Television Service.
- AGUNSA** Agencias Universales S.A., RPSC's agent in Chile that supports the US Antarctic Program.
- AMC** Air Mobility Command, US Air Force, formally known as MAC, Military Airlift Command.
- ANG** Air National Guard, US Air Force Reserve Component.
- AOD** Airport of Departure.
- AOPB** Air Operations Priority Board.
- APHIS** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, US Department of Agriculture.
- APO** Army and Air Force Post Office.
- APT** Antarctic Passenger Terminal at the International Antarctic Center in Christchurch, New Zealand.
- ARVOC** Antarctic Research Vessel Oversight Committee. An advisory group that meets to discuss issues related to science research on the vessels.
- ASMA** Antarctic Specially Managed Area.
- ASPA** Antarctic Specially Protected Area.
- ATO** Antarctic Terminal Operations. Division of RPSC 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 hold bags are palletized for transport.
- Beaker** A nickname for scientists.
- 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 US Air Force aircraft used for transporting cargo and personnel from New Zealand to McMurdo.
- C-130** A wheeled four-engine Lockheed Hercules turboprop airplane. LC-130 indicates a ski-equipped plane like those used in Antarctica.
- CDC** Clothing Distribution Center located in Christchurch, NZ.
- Chalet** Building that houses NSF and RPSC headquarters staff at McMurdo Station, Antarctica.
- CHC or CHCH** Acronym for "Christchurch," New Zealand. Pronounced "Cheech."
- Clean Air Sector** Area upwind from the South Pole Station that is not contaminated by exhaust fumes from South Pole activity.
- COM AIR** Commercial air transport.
- COMNAP** Council on Managers of National Antarctic Programs.
- COM SUR** Commercial Surface vessel transport.
- Condition One** Weather condition when visibility is less than 100 ft., or 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 US Antarctic Program that includes McMurdo Station, including South Pole and field camps supported from McMurdo (not the Peninsula area).
- CONUS** Continental United States.
- CSEC** Albert P. Crary Science and Engineering Center, laboratory at McMurdo Station, Antarctica. Also known as Building One.
- CTS** Cargo Tracking System, used to track US Antarctic Program related cargo.
- 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.
- DSG** Deployment Specialists Group. The combination of the Travel Department and Population Management to assist with every aspect of the deployment process.

- DV** Distinguished Visitor.
- E-mail** Electronic mail.
- ECW** Extreme Cold Weather. Usually in reference to the special clothing/equipment issued to US Antarctic Program participants.
- EHS** Environmental Health and Safety department.
- EPA** Environmental Protection Agency, US government.
- Event Number** A number identifying a science group that has received funding from NSF to perform research in Antarctica.
- FAR** Federal Acquisition Regulations.
- FEMC** Facilities, Engineering, Maintenance and Construction.
- Galley** Navy term for dining facility.
- Genetically Modified Organism (GMO)**
Any organism in which any of the genes or genetic material has been modified by in vitro techniques.
- Grantee** A scientist who has received a grant from the NSF.
- 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."
- Ice Runway** The runway used during mainbody flights, it is built on the temporary sea ice and accommodates wheeled airplanes.
- IGY** International Geophysical Year, 1957-1958.
- IT** Information Technology, the department overseeing telecommunications and computers.
- JP-8** Type of fuel used for aircraft and in diesel applications.
- JSOC** Joint Space Operations Center, a building in McMurdo.
- 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.
- LMG** Research support vessel called the *Laurence M. Gould*.
- LTER** Long Term Ecological Research.
- MAF** Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, New Zealand.
- Mainbody** The period of time in October when the majority of passengers and cargo are flown into McMurdo Station.
- MAUC** McMurdo Area Users Committee. An advisory group that meets to discuss issues related to science research in the McMurdo area.
- MCC** Movement Control Center, McMurdo Station, Antarctica.
- MEC** Mechanical Equipment Center, McMurdo Station, Antarctica.
- Medevac** Medical evacuation of a patient.
- MOGAS** Motor automotive gasoline.
- MSC** Military Sealift Command.
- NBP** Research support vessel called the *Nathaniel B. Palmer*.
- NGA** Non-governmental activity.
- NSF** National Science Foundation, an agency of the US government.
- NYANG** New York Air National Guard.
- NZAP** New Zealand Antarctic Programme.
- OAE** Old Antarctic Explorer. A reference to an experienced Antarctic program participant.
- OPP** Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation.
- ORW** Operational Request Worksheet.
- OSHA** Occupational Safety and Health Act.
- PA/QA** Performance Assurance, Quality Assurance. The RPSC department that monitors the performance and quality of service provided to the US Antarctic Program.
- PAUC** Palmer Area Users Committee. An advisory group that meets to discuss issues related to science research in the Palmer area.
- Pax** Vernacular for passenger/s.
- Pegasus** A prepared runway on permanent ice near McMurdo Station that accommodates wheeled airplanes.
- Peninsula Area** The part of the US Antarctic Program that includes Palmer Station, *R/V Laurence M. Gould*, and other operations in the Antarctic Peninsula area.
- PHI** Petroleum Helicopters Incorporated.
- PI** Principal Investigator: Team leader or scientist in charge of a funded research project.
- 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.
- Radioisotopes** A radioactive isotope.
- 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.
- RDD** Required Delivery Date.
- ROS** Required-On-Site date.
- RPSC** Raytheon Polar Services Company
- RPSNZ** Raytheon Polar Services New Zealand. Christchurch location of logistical support for the US Antarctic Program.
- SAAM** Special Assignment Airlift Mission, a mission supported by US Antarctic Program

- AMC at the request of the NSF.
- SAR** Search and Rescue.
- SCALOP** The Standing Committee of Antarctic Logistics and Operations.
- SCAR** Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, of the International Council of Scientific Unions, a non-governmental organization.
- Science Planning Managers** RPSC personnel who work with science groups to plan their research season.
- Science Support** The RPSC department that works with scientists to ensure their research requirements are met.
- SFA** Support Forces Antarctica. The tactical operational name given to US military activities in Antarctica.
- SIP** Support Information Package.
- SPAWAR** Space and Naval Warfare Systems, provides weather forecasting and other services for air traffic control.
- SPSM** South Pole Station Modernization.
- SPUC** South Pole Users Committee. An advisory group that meets to discuss issues related to science research at the South Pole.
- SSC** Science Support Center, a building in McMurdo.
- Supply Chain Management** The RPSC department that buys, arranges transportation and distributes materials for the US Antarctic Program.
- SUREPA** Senior US Representative, Antarctica, appointed by the director of NSF to oversee US government activities in Antarctica.
- T-event** A technical event, approved by the NSF to perform technical functions at US Antarctic Program locations.
- USAF** United States Air Force.
- US Antarctic Program (USAP)** United States Antarctic Program, the US 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.
- V-event** A visitor, approved by the NSF for visiting US 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.
- W-event** Writer or artist, supported by the NSF in Antarctica.
- White out** A weather term to describe a situation where the horizon is not definitive usually due to blowing snow.
- WINFLY** Vernacular for 'winter fly-in'. Usually occurring in August or September.
- Winter** Verb to winter: to spend the austral winter season at a US Antarctic Program station.