



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: AvPORTS Protects Air Travel Operations Amid COVID-19 Outbreak

America's most experienced airport manager shares its best practices for pandemic preparedness and response

New York — In response to the COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) outbreak, America's most experienced airport operator announced new efforts to slow the spread of the virus and protect its employees while still allowing for safe, essential air transport throughout the country.

AvPORTS — formerly Pan Am World Services — operates six airports in the Tri-state area, and two other airports around the country. **CEO Jorge Roberts** issued the following statement:

"Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, AvPORTS and the airports we operate have been monitoring the spread of the disease, as well as adapting new protocols to ensure the safety of the public and staff. We have created a new social distance workflow and staff shifts, required non-ground staff to work from home, and created a robust self-quarantine policy that includes paid sick leave. We have also supplied personal protection equipment to all essential workers.

"We have continued thorough sanitation measures in all our public and employee workspaces—especially high-touch surfaces— wherever possible. We also recommend those who are leaving their home and traveling to engage in essential activities and perform work for essential businesses to take basic precautions, like frequently washing their hands and keeping a safe distance from others whenever possible.

"Moreover, we are exploring various ways to ease this pandemic: repurposing terminals as temporary emergency centers, allowing aircraft courier shipments of personal protective equipment (PPE) and transporting medical personnel, providing logistic management, and supporting our communities vulnerable to the virus."

Specifically, in response to the COVID-19 crisis, AvPORTS is:

- Supplying PPE including gloves, hand-washing facilities and sanitizing gels for staff;
- Increasing our standardized cleaning procedures;
- Adapting staff schedules to allow for social distancing and work from home;
- Facilitating vehicles and health personnel to transport travelers to health facilities in case required;
- Performing entry/exit control with the health authorities, as needed.

AvPORTS recommends that travelers:

- Limit to only essential travel (as permitted by state or local orders);
- Frequently clean hands by washing with soap and water or using alcohol-based hand sanitizer;

- Cover mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing into a flexed elbow or tissue – throw tissue away immediately and wash hands;
- Do not touch eyes, mouth, and nose without washing hands first;
- Use antiseptic wipes to clean surfaces;
- To the maximum extent possible, maintain a safe distance from individuals who are not part of the same household;
- Seek medical care early if you have fever, cough, and/or difficulty breathing. Share previous travel history with your healthcare provider. We ask that you do not travel while sick;
- Check the latest information from your airline, the CDC, and state or local governments that may have imposed their own restrictions.

AvPORTS coordinates with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), state governments, local authorities, and appropriate entities about the airports' on-the-ground responses. At this time, AvPORTS-managed airports are considered essential businesses in each of their respective states, as directed by each states' governors or locality.

The CDC and federal government designated eleven major international airports to handle traffic from affected origination points outside the United States, none of which are AvPORTS' managed airports. We are sharing our policies and procedures with other airports through the Airports Council International and the American Association of Airport Executives.

About AvPORTS

AvPORTS is the most experienced American-owned and -based airport manager and operator, with more than 650 employees and a 93-year track record. Founded in 1927 as the infrastructure division of Pan Am World Airlines, AvPORTS has operated more than 30 airports, aviation facilities and passenger terminals in the United States, including 50 years operating airports in New York State. AvPORTS currently operates Albany International Airport, New York Stewart International Airport, Republic Airport, and Westchester County Airport in New York; Teterboro Airport in New Jersey; Tweed New Haven Airport in Connecticut; Gary Chicago International Airport in Indiana; and Moffett Federal Airfield in California.

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