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## COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS

# Coastal Delivers!

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**Seattle, WA:** Coastal Environmental Systems delivered 22 weather stations last month; four of which were shipped to Antarctica. Of those four, 1 was a stationary platform for an emergency landing field, and 3 were portable aviation stations that will be used to guide flight operations at summer camps, which are set up at various locations on the continent.

The portable weather stations were a challenge in that they had to be packed into 4 high-impact plastic cases (a material that would not become brittle when exposed to the extreme cold), as well as be portable enough for one person to lift and easily shove into a helicopter for transport. The stations measured all the standard aviation parameters, plus visibility and cloud height. Additionally, to make the problem more complex, the stations had to include a power system of batteries and solar panels, but ALSO be able to run off AC power if available - all this into 4 cases that could be easily moved by one person!

"The key," said Scott Newell, project manager for the job, "was in selecting a case that we could also use for part of the structural components of the station. Once we figured that out, it cut down on the weight and size of the overall package." "It also helps that you have an easy supply of concrete-like material in the Antarctic - it's called water!" "You can just dig or chip a hole, insert your post or whatever, then pour in water. It freezes quickly and works just like concrete."

Coastal begins production for Phase II of the National Weather Service RSOIS weather stations (for a quantity of 62), and the FAA's SAWS weather stations (295 of them) this month.