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COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS "THE SOUTH POLE" TO RECEIVE FIRST EVER AUTOMATED AVIATION WEATHER STATION

Seattle, WA: Coastal Environmental Systems, Inc. was recently awarded a contract from the Navy, to provide the first ever, automated aviation weather station at the actual South Pole. THE South Pole refers to the fact that this station is going – not just to Antarctica – but to the physical South Pole Station.

The weather station will be one of Coastal's OS-21 (Observing Systems for the 21st Century) Fixed Base Systems, the same system currently being installed at all U.S. Air Force Bases, worldwide. Only a few modifications for extreme cold and the poles unique installation requirements will be made to the South Pole station. The system is expected to measure temperatures as cold as -70° C or less! Precautions must be taken to ensure that the system keeps warm enough during the winter, yet does not "cook" itself during the Antarctic summer (when temperatures can actually get above freezing!).

An automated aviation weather station is essential at the South Pole to support aircraft landing. The OS-21 station is part of the overall upgrade of the entire S. Pole facility you may have seen recently in newspapers or magazines.

The control tower at the pole is located too far away from the touchdown area of the airfield to provide visual range observations to pilots as they approach. Coastal's weather station will provide the necessary visibility and cloud height measurements to assist with a safe landing.

Three primary concerns with installing a weather station at the South Pole are: altitude (9,500 feet), extreme cold temperatures (-78° C), and reliability. Coastal's weather station is able to withstand, and excel, in all three.

For Immediate Release

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