



The Corpus Christi International Airport serves some 800,000 customers each year and has recently made improvements to the facility.

# It's the Only Way To Fly

## International airport provides important link for Coastal Bend region

The first image that air travelers often see of Corpus Christi is its airport.

That's why officials with Corpus Christi International Airport decided to open a new terminal in November 2002, to replace one that had been in use since 1958.

In addition, many other improvements have taken place in order to better serve the 800,000 customers who utilize the facility each year.

"Perhaps our biggest and latest service improvement was adding nonstop daily flights to Atlanta, courtesy of ASA/Delta," says Amy Gazin, public relations and marketing coordinator at Corpus Christi International Airport. "Besides Atlanta, we also have flights to Dallas/Ft. Worth and Houston, and accommodate other carriers such as American Eagle, Continental Express and Southwest Airlines."

Gazin says the city-owned airport is looking into expanding its commercial service.

"There has been talk of adding a link to San Antonio as well as a West Coast route, which we believe this community would respond well to," she says. "But these plans are still just in the talking stages."

The airport has a business center on-site, along with free wireless Internet service throughout the facility. Officials are also looking at eventually establishing an industrial park there.

"We are surrounded by 1,400 acres of farmland off Highway 44, and a lot of airports these days have industrial parks to generate more business customers and revenue," Gazin says.

Besides Corpus Christi International, several independent airfields throughout the Coastal Bend region can accommodate small commercial and recreational aircraft for takeoffs and landings. These airfields are located in cities such as Alice, Beeville, Bishop, Falfurrias, George West, Ingleside, Kingsville, Port Aransas, Refugio, Robstown, Rockport and Sinton.

"Flying out of Corpus Christi and the surrounding area is a smart move for area businesses," Gazin says. "As for us at Corpus Christi International, we have competitive fares, shorter security checks and the convenience of flying out of your hometown. It all makes good sense."

— Kevin Litwin