



# IAATO announces search for new Executive Director

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*Kingstown, Rhode Island, USA:*

The International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO) has launched its search for an Executive Director to lead the organization in its mission of promoting safe, environmentally responsible Antarctic Travel.

The new Executive Director will succeed Acting Executive Director, Dr Terry Shaller, who has served IAATO in various roles for 15 years, latterly spearheading a restructuring of the Secretariat, the creation of a new IAATO Strategic Plan, and overseeing an overhaul of management protocols and standard operating procedures for IAATO business.

IAATO's ideal candidate will have demonstrable leadership and diplomatic skills, experience in organizational administrative management and the ability to develop high-quality business strategies and plans.

The position bears primary responsibility, in consultation with the IAATO's Executive Committee and Senior Management Team, for design and implementation of all IAATO policies and procedures, in line with achieving the long-term outcomes envisioned in the IAATO Strategic Plan, including maintaining a strong institutional structure supporting an effective, efficient, and thriving Association; maintaining and nurturing IAATO's standing as a reputable and valued partner in the wider Antarctic Community and maintaining sound safety and environmental standards to support the long-term viability of Antarctic tourism.

[Interested candidates can find the Executive Director role profile and application information on the IAATO website.](#)

Mark van der Hulst, Chair of IAATO's Executive Committee said, "Under Terry's strong and considered leadership, IAATO members, the Executive Committee and the IAATO Secretariat have worked together to strengthen the association, firstly with the reorganization of the Secretariat into a team better equipped to support the growing needs of the membership and the demands of our external polar partners, and by overseeing the development of integral management tools, such as IAATO's new database.



## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ANTARCTICA TOUR OPERATORS

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*IAATO is a member organization founded in 1991 to advocate and promote the practice of safe and environmentally responsible private-sector travel to the Antarctic.*

“With solid foundations now in place to see IAATO into its next chapter, it is time to begin our search for a new Executive Director to lead the Association in its commitment to managing for industry growth and enhancing our robust environmental standards for our members to continue to deliver enriching, educational and environmentally responsible exploration in Antarctica.”

IAATO has carefully monitored, analyzed and reported Antarctic visitor trends since 1991 as part of its commitment to have nothing but a minor or transitory impact through the effective self-management of guest activities. Every year at IAATO’s annual meeting, members have open and candid discussions on safety, environmental protection and self-management. Decision-making is supported by recommendations developed by IAATO’s many dedicated committees and working groups throughout the year. The meetings conclude annually with the voting in of new policies on best practice which support the association’s mission.

Mark added: “IAATO’s proven success in conscientious visitor management is the result of forward planning based on long-term understanding of the industry, so a forward-thinking and inspiring leader is integral to the ongoing development of our mission and vision.”

ENDS

**Issued by the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators.**

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### **About IAATO**

IAATO is a member organization founded in 1991 to advocate and promote the practice of safe and environmentally responsible private-sector travel to the Antarctic. IAATO Members work together to develop, adopt and implement operational standards that mitigate potential environmental impacts. These standards have proved to be successful including , but not limited to; Antarctic site-specific guidelines, site selection criteria, passenger to staff ratios, limiting numbers of passengers ashore, boot washing guidelines and the prevention of the transmission of alien organisms, wilderness etiquette, ship scheduling and vessel communication procedures, emergency medical evacuation procedures, emergency contingency plans, reporting procedures, marine wildlife watching guidelines, station visitation policies and much more. IAATO has a global network of over 100 members.