

# "Travel Tips"

## Re-Building the Airlines

### VENUS TRAVEL

By John Conenna

What happens when an airline cancels your flight?

When you buy an airline ticket, you enter into a contract with that airline. This contract of air service spells out the obligations and rights of a carrier and a passenger. Some of the terms are set by the airline, while others are standard terms provided by federal law.

The reasons an airline can change the time of your flight or cancel it altogether include a number of safety hazards to the passengers. Such as weather, mechanical problems and shortage of crew. Some consumers speculate that the airlines might cancel a flight if few people book tickets on it, though they understand that would be hard to prove. Knowing what the airline's obligations are can limit the headaches. Here's a few tips to go by in helping understand your options if your airline changes the time of your flight or cancels it.

1. *There are no guarantees.* The airlines advises passengers that its schedules are subject to change without notice and that times shown on its tickets are not guaranteed.

2. *Request a refund.* Most airlines will refund the amount you paid for

a ticket if they cancel your flight and can't accommodate you on another flight that gets you to your destination on the day you were expecting.

3. *Try rebooking your flight.* Some major airlines have an interline agreements that allow them to easily rebook a passenger on another carrier.

4. *Request a hotel room.* The airlines say if a delay or cancellation was caused by events in its control and it does not get a passenger to his or her final destination on the expected arrival day, it will provide reasonable overnight accommodations, subject to availability.

5. *Make sure your airline has your telephone or e-mail address, so it can alert you in the event that it cancels or reschedules your flight.*

Again last but not least your best tip is your travel professional he has the answers to the constant changes of the airline world...John F. Conenna is the president of VENUS TRAVEL any questions or comments please e-mail [john@venustravel.com](mailto:john@venustravel.com) or call 773-637-1110.

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