U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Office of the Associate Administrator
for Airports

800 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20591

NOV 18 2008

Mr. Charles Barclay
President
American Association of Airport Executives
601 Madison Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mr. Barclay: Chip

This past October, the Federal Aviation Administration Technical Center completed pavement friction evaluations of several newer generation runway deicing fluids (RDFs). Preliminary results showed that when used for anti-icing, that is, on wet pavements free from ice/snow masses, the evaluated RDFs affected runway friction comparably to propylene glycol with urea and potassium acetate products.

Manufacturers of the tested RDFs have recently gained third-party lab certification on their products in accordance with Society of Automotive Engineers Aerospace Material Specification 1435, except for the one year Storage Stability Test (SST) requirement. The SST is necessary to determine if the remaining RDFs may be used the following winter season.

Given the shortage of available RDFs, and since the third-party lab certification reports show that all other material compatibility tests have passed, airports may use newer RDFs under the following conditions:

1. Only those RDFs that have been evaluated by the FAA Technical Center and have displayed comparable frictional effects to existing RDFs may be used. A list of those evaluated to date is enclosed.
2. At the end of the 2008/2009 winter season, airport operators must store unused RDFs until the SST is complete. At that point, RDFs passing the SST can be used for the following winter seasons. The failing RDFs cannot be used after long-term storage.

Sincerely,

Kirk

D. Kirk Shaffer
Associate Administrator
for Airports

Enclosure

FAA Technical Center Runway Friction Tested of Runway Deicing Fluids (RDFs)

Currently available RDFs that were tested:

Octagon Process Inc. product trade names:

- Octagon RD-1426 (Propylene Glycol + Urea)
- Octamelt™ (Potassium Acetate + Propylene Glycol)

Cryotech product trade name:

- E36 (Potassium Acetate)

New RDFs that demonstrated satisfactory friction characteristics under test conditions were:

Battelle product trade names:

- RDF 6-2
- RDF 6-3
- RDF 6-3
- RDF 6-4
- RDF 6-12 (all are a Polyol/Organic salt)

Cryotech product trade names:

- NX360 (aqueous acetate based solution + Sodium Acetate)
- XT360 (aqueous bio-based solution)

FMC Corporation product trade name:

- LithMelt™ (Potassium Acetate + Lithium)

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Mr. Gregory Principato
President
Airports Council International – North America
1775 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. Principato: Greg

This past October, the Federal Aviation Administration Technical Center completed pavement friction evaluations of several newer generation runway deicing fluids (RDFs). Preliminary results showed that when used for anti-icing, that is, on wet pavements free from ice/snow masses, the evaluated RDFs affected runway friction comparably to propylene glycol with urea and potassium acetate products.

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NOV 18 2008

Mr. James C. May
President
Air Transport Association of America
1301 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW.
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. May:

This past October, the Federal Aviation Administration Technical Center completed pavement friction evaluations of several newer generation runway deicing fluids (RDFs). Preliminary results showed that when used for anti-icing, that is, on wet pavements free from ice/snow masses, the evaluated RDFs affected runway friction comparably to propylene glycol with urea and potassium acetate products.

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Mr. Henry M. Ogrodzinski
President and CEO
National Association of State Aviation Officials
1 Reagan Washington National Airport
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Ogrodzinski: Henry

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