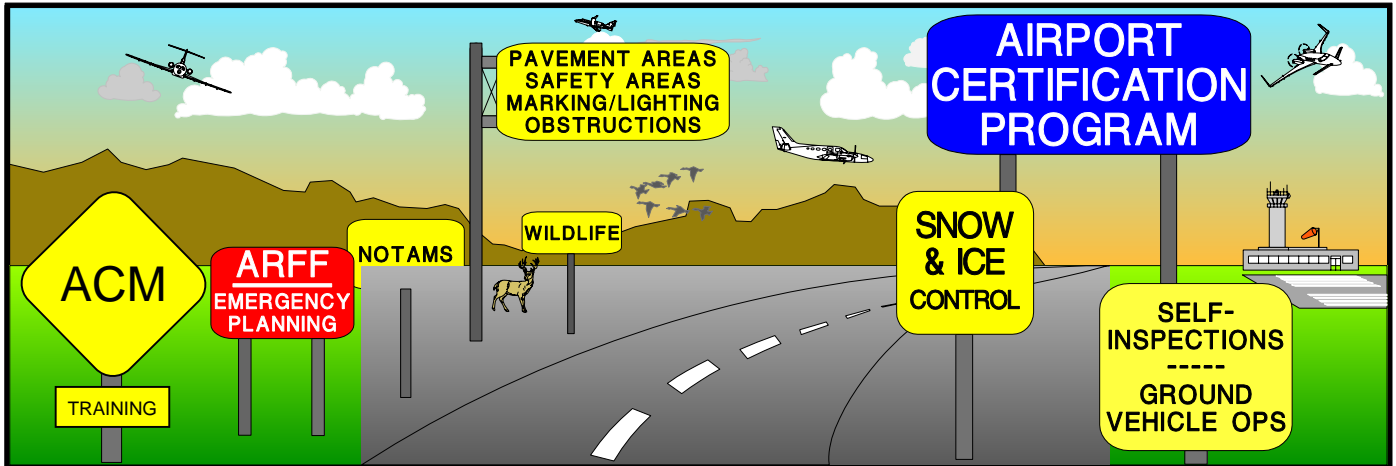


AIRPORT CERTIFICATION INFORMATION BULLETIN



DATE: 02/22/07, NUMBER: 07-05 Vehicle Deviations – Snow Removal Equipment

Many airports in Great Lakes Region have experienced abnormally high snowfalls and unusually adverse weather conditions this winter. Managing these snow events has resulted in more snow removal equipment operations on airport movement areas. Along with this increase in snow removal activity, we have experienced a disturbingly high number of runway incursions involving all types of snow removal equipment.

To date in fiscal year 2007, we have recorded 20 vehicle deviations on airports. Of these, nine involved snow removal equipment. Six of these have been classified as runway incursions that resulted in a conflict with an arriving or departing aircraft. While any surface incident could result in an accident, runway incursions provide the greatest risk of a ground collision. None of us want an accident, yet incursions involving snow removal equipment are contributing to the likelihood of a catastrophe in record numbers.

We see one common denominator in nearly all incidents involving snow removal equipment. Please do not underestimate the importance of maintaining situational awareness while operating on the airfield at all times. Weather conditions, fatigue, and other factors play a role in detracting from optimum vehicle operator performance. Place extra emphasis on the location of visual aids, pavement markings, signs, and other geographic landmarks that can help drivers always know exactly where they are. There's no room for complacency, and remember, "If in doubt... ask".



Does your training program utilize a driver proficiency or currency standard to retain airfield driving privileges?

Does your training program address the importance of always maintaining situational awareness?

Do staffing procedures consider fatigue or other factors that may negatively affect driver performance?

