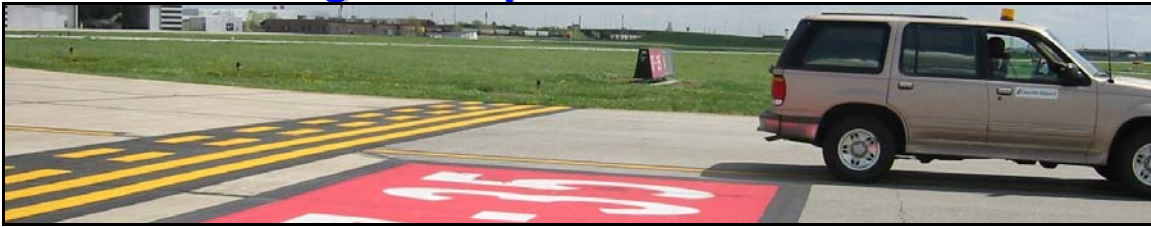


Central Region Airport Certification Bulletin



Bulletin: 2010-04
Subject: Investigation of Pavement Excursions
Issue Date: January 29, 2010

Issuing Office:

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Application:

This bulletin is intended for Part 139 Airport Managers and State Aviation Directors in the States of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska

Background:

Recently the air carrier community has experienced a significant increase in the number of runway and movement area excursions. From December 17, 2008 to February 17, 2009, the FAA received 19 incident reports involving the departure of aircraft from paved airport surfaces during taxi, takeoff and landing operations. These excursions were due to a loss of stopping capability and/or steering control due to winter weather contamination on airport surfaces. In nine of these reported cases, the aircraft departed the runway turnoff after completing a safe landing due to excess speed and/or surface conditions being worse than anticipated by the flight crew. In other cases, flight crews reported the obscuration of surface markings and airport signage leading to the airplane departing the paved area or becoming stuck in the surface contamination areas that had not been cleared.

FAA has begun tracking and analyzing these events to identify systemic shortcoming and trends that may be addressed through policy and/or regulatory changes. FAA is requiring regional airport offices to investigate each runway and movement area excursion.

Action Required:

Airport Operators should be apprised that investigations of excursions will be conducted. Airports operators are asked to contact the Central Region Airport Inspectors anytime an excursion occurs on their airfield. The requirement to investigate excursions applies to air carrier and general aviation aircraft operating at Part 139 certificated airports year round. Contact either, Mike Mullen, Lead Airport Certification Inspector, 816-329-2618 or Pat Haynes, Airport Certification Safety Inspector, 816-329-2621 if you need a copy of the current PowerPoint presentations.