



FAA
Great Lakes Region, Airports Division
Safety Standards Branch

Airport Certification Information Bulletin 2010-08

This bulletin is to remind airport operators of the need for vehicles and pedestrians operating on runways and inside Runway Safety Areas (RSA's) to remain alert at all times and continue to self-announce positions and intentions including monitoring the appropriate frequencies regardless of ATC clearances.

At controlled airfields with operating control towers, we recommend vehicles and pedestrians operating on runways for extended periods of time to continue to check back in with the controller to reconfirm the clearance and remind the controller of the personnel and equipment on the runway. While it is not common for ATC to forget about personnel and equipment operating out on runways, there have been instances where aircraft operations have occurred on runways when the vehicle operator was on a runway with the appropriate ATC clearance. We recommend airports work with their local Air Traffic Manager to establish best practices for communications, including those vehicles and pedestrians which are operating in the RSA's.

At uncontrolled airfields, it is imperative vehicles and pedestrians continue to self-announce positions and intentions over the Common Traffic Advisory Frequency (CTAF). We recommend this communication is repeated every several minutes as necessary. Visibility, time of day and current weather conditions certainly plays an important role in determining how often it is necessary to re-announce.

We encourage all airport operators to formally close a runway via the Notice to Airmen System (NOTAM), when personnel and equipment will occupy the runway or the RSA for an extended period of time.

Regardless of the status of your airfield (controlled or uncontrolled), these best practices can be very important in preventing an incident or accident at your airport. We request that your airport establish these best practices and incorporate them into the airport drivers training program. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your assigned Airport Certification Safety Inspector.

