

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION Air Traffic Organization Policy

N JO 7210.768

Effective Date: May 4, 2011

Cancellation Date: May 3, 2012

SUBJ: Guidance for the Use of Runway Status Lights (RWSL) Light System at Orlando, FL Airport (MCO)

- 1. **Purpose of This Notice**. The purpose of this notice is to provide interim guidance to the air traffic manager (ATM)/front line manager (FLM) concerning the operation and periodic check of runway status lights (RWSL) system being tested at MCO Airport. A new paragraph will not be added to FAA Order JO 7210.3 until after all testing is complete.
- **2. Audience**. This notice applies to the Air Traffic Organization (ATO) Terminal Service Unit at MCO airport.
- **3.** Where Can I Find This Notice? This notice is available on the MyFAA employee Web site at https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/ and on the air traffic publications Web site at http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications.
- **4. Procedures**. The following procedures must be used:

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The RWSL is a system of runway and taxiway lighting which enhances pilot situational awareness by illuminating runway entrance lights (REL) when the runway is unsafe for entry or crossing and take-off hold lights (THL) when the runway is unsafe for departure. RWSLs use a configuration of in-pavement lights installed on taxiways and runways that indicate runway status only; they are not intended to indicate a clearance. The RWSL system works in conjunction with the airport surface detection equipment (ASDE-X) system along with the Field Lighting System (FLS).

- **a.** ATMs must ensure that when available or operating normally, the RWSL light systems are operated on a continuous basis.
 - **b.** Operation of the system must be verified once each shift as part of the facility checklist.
- **c.** When RWSL displays "Lost Comm with System" or a pilot/vehicle reports an outage, the RWSL must be turned off. The system is to be considered out of service until checked and confirmed to be operational by Technical Operations Personnel.
 - **d**. A NOTAM must be issued during any outage of the system.
- **5. Distribution**. This notice is distributed to the following ATO service units: Terminal, En Route and Oceanic, Mission Support, and System Operations Services; the ATO Office of Safety; the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service; the William J. Hughes Technical Center; and the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center.

Elizabeth L. Ray

Vice President, Mission Support Services

Air Traffic Organization

Distribution: ZAT-721; ZAT-464

Date Signed

Initiated By: AJT-2
Terminal Safety and Operations Support