Date: 1/9/2007  No. 07-01
To: Airport Operators, FAA Airport Certification Safety Inspectors
Topic: Need for better dissemination of runway/taxiway closure information and construction on an airport

PURPOSE:
This Certalert’s purpose is to encourage the dissemination of better and more detailed information of runway/taxiway closures and construction taking place on an airport. Due to the rapidly changing conditions that can occur on an airport when runways and taxiways are closed for maintenance or construction, aircrews may have a hard time keeping up with these changes as they occur. In many cases, the NOTAM system may be inadequate.

With today’s technology, there is little to no reason why an airport operator cannot supply the air carriers and FBOs on the airport with the latest and most current information on runway and taxiway closures. This should be done graphically as well as textually. One airport has a rather simple way of doing this. They have a diagram of the airport scanned into the computer as a bitmap. They are able to open the diagram and, in Paintbrush in Microsoft programs, color in the area of the airport that is being closed. They then cut and paste that portion into a construction notice that is sent to the air carriers and the FBOs on the airport.

In many cases, pure text can be difficult for people to envision exactly what is being described. Whereas, using a picture or diagram that pinpoints the exact location of the closure is much more clear. The dissemination of the diagrams can be done by email, by establishing a website that can be accessed by the tenants, or by hand delivery. The possibilities are limited only by imagination. But the result is a much more safe environment.

See the attached for an example of this.

OSB  1/9/2007
Ben Castellano, Manager  Date
Airport Safety & Operations Division
XXX Airport Authority
OPERATIONS Office
CONSTRUCTION SECTION
DATE ISSUED: 09/06/06

TAXIWAY CLOSURE NOTICE

T/W “J” BTWN T/W “P” AND “S”

T/W “R” BTWN T/W “K” AND “B”

THURSDAY 09/07/06

FROM

0030LCL TO 0630LCL

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE AIRPORT DUTY MANAGER AT (Phone Number).
XXX Airport Authority
OPERATIONS OFFICE
CONSTRUCTION SECTION
DATE ISSUED: 09/06/06

TAXIWAY CLOSURE NOTIFICATION

T/W “G” CLOSURE
BETWEEN T/W”P” AND T/W “A”

T/W “B” CLOSURE BTWN “RE” AND “RF”

FROM 0030LCL TO 0630LCL

FRIDAY 09/08/06

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE
AIRPORT DUTY MANAGER AT (Phone Number)