

## Notice of 2<sup>nd</sup> SMS Pilot Study

For release on FAA Airports News Website/AAAE/NASAO

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The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) plans to conduct a second Safety Management System (SMS) pilot study for airport operators. The second pilot study is aimed at gaining more information to assist the agency in determining scope, scalability, and implementation of SMS at smaller operations. Therefore, the second pilot study will be limited to airports with Class II, III, and IV Airport Operating Certificates and be offered to no more than 10 eligible airports. Airports participating in the pilot study will have the opportunity to share their acquired experience in developing an SMS and implementation plan with other airports and with the FAA.

As with the first pilot study, FAA has determined that contract costs incurred for development of an initial SMS plan at an airport are eligible for AIP grant funds. At smaller airports, we anticipate the costs of developing an SMS are less than \$100,000. The selected airports should expect to complete the pilot study within 6 months. Participating airports will be expected to produce a Safety Program Manual (SPM). More information will be available in the following days on the FAA's website at

[http://www.faa.gov/airports\\_airtraffic/airports/airport\\_safety/safety\\_management\\_systems/](http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/airports/airport_safety/safety_management_systems/).

Airports should contact Ms. Keri Spencer, SMS Program Manager at (202) 267-8972 or [keri.spencer@faa.gov](mailto:keri.spencer@faa.gov) before Friday, July 18, 2008 to express their interest in participating in the second pilot study. Due to the limited number of slots, requests to participate will be evaluated in the order they are received. Airports accepted into the pilot study will be required to follow-up their request with an official statement of interest to the following address.

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