



**FAA  
Great Lakes Region, Airports Division  
Safety Standards Branch**

**Airport Certification Information Bulletin (ACIB) 11-13**

**Subject: Special Inspections & Inspections Following Accidents / Incidents**

**BACKGROUND:**

Recently, a blow-up occurred on a runway at a GA airport during the excessive heat wave currently over much of the nation.



The landing gear on a business jet was damaged during takeoff after hitting the blowup.



Fortunately, the aircraft landed safely at another airport following the incident.

**ACTION REQUIRED:**

Part 139.327(a)(2) requires certificate holders to inspect the airport, *"When required by any unusual condition, such as construction activities or meteorological conditions, that may affect air carrier operations."* During these excessive weather events (excessive heat, freeze & thaw periods, following a significant storm, etc.) airport operators should

be conducting extra inspections of paved areas to check for pavement blow-ups and debris that could damage aircraft or cause pilots to lose directional control.

Part 139.327(a)(3) requires each certificate holder to, *“Inspect the airport immediately following an accident or incident.”* This inspection includes ensuring the areas and systems available to air carriers (Paved Areas, Safety Areas, Marking, Signs & Lighting) have been properly inspected for safety and compliance. Those observations and inspection results must be properly documented on the FAA Approved Self-Inspection form/report. Some examples of incidents or accidents that would trigger a special inspection would be aircraft excursions, runway incursions, wildlife strikes, etc.

Part 139.327(c)(1) requires each certificate holder to, *“Prepare and maintain for at least 12 consecutive calendar months, a record of each inspection prescribed by this section, showing the conditions found and all corrective actions taken.”* Any special inspections should be documented in accordance with the Airports Certification Manual, however are typically accomplished by using the regular self-inspection checklist and a note is made at the top of the checklist to document the special inspection.

Part 139.343 requires the certificate holder to, *“limit air carrier operations to those portions of the airport not rendered unsafe by those conditions,”* whenever uncorrected unsafe conditions exist on the airport.

If you have any questions concerning this bulletin, please contact your assigned Airport Certification Safety Inspector.