SUBJ: Takeoff Clearance

1. Purpose of This Notice. This notice amends Federal Aviation Administration Order (FAAO) JO 7110.65, Air Traffic Control, Paragraph 3-9-9, Takeoff Clearance.

2. Audience. This notice applies to the Terminal Services organization and all associated air traffic control facilities.


4. Explanation of Policy Change. This change now requires all runways to be crossed along the taxi route before the takeoff clearance can be issued.

5. Procedures. Change FAAO JO 7110.65S, Paragraph 3-9-9, Takeoff Clearance, to read as follows:

3-9-9. TAKEOFF CLEARANCE

   a. When issuing a clearance for takeoff, first state the runway number followed by the takeoff clearance.

   PHRASEOLOGY-
   RUNWAY (number), CLEARED FOR TAKEOFF.

   EXAMPLE-
   "RUNWAY TWO SEVEN, CLEARED FOR TAKEOFF."

   NOTE-
   Turbine-powered aircraft may be considered ready for takeoff when they reach the runway unless they advise otherwise.

   REFERENCE-
   FAAO JO 7110.65, Para 4-3-1, Departure Terminology.

   b. The controller must ensure all runways along the taxi route that lead to the departure runway are crossed before the takeoff clearance is issued, except in subpara c (below).

   c. At those airports where the airport configuration does not allow for an aircraft to completely cross one runway and hold short of the departure runway and/or where airports do not have runway hold markings between runways, state the runway to be crossed with the takeoff clearance if the aircraft is not able to complete a runway crossing before reaching its departure runway.
6. **Distribution.** This notice is distributed to the following Air Traffic Organization service units: Terminal, Safety, and System Operations Services; the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service; the Office of the Chief Counsel; the William J. Hughes Technical Center; and the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center.

7. **Background.** The FAA Administrator’s recent "Call to Action" workgroup made many recommendations to enhance runway safety. The Terminal Services Safety and Operations Support Office assembled a safety risk management panel to address some of the proposals from this workgroup. The panel did a safety assessment on takeoff procedures at FAA tower-controlled airports and found no high risks associated with this proposal.

8. **Implementation.** This notice shall be implemented on the effective date. The procedures will be incorporated into FAAO JO 7110.65S, change 2, effective March 12, 2009.

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Air Traffic Organization  

Date Signed