



FAA
Southern Region Airports Division

Regional Guidance Letter (RGL) 05-1A

Commissioning and Flight Inspection of Non-Fed Visual Glide Slope Indicators (VGSIs)

Line of Business: Airport Planning

Date issued: August 17, 2005

Purpose

This Regional Guidance Letter (RGL) establishes regional policy on coordination of non-fed Visual Glide Slope Indicator (VGSIs) flight inspections.

Policy

In accordance with the latest standard flight inspection manual, Order 8200.1C all visual glide slope indicators (VGSIs), including temporary VGSIs, are required to be flight inspected prior to commissioning if part of a precision instrument approach or on a runway where circling is authorized. VGSIs include Precision Approach Path Indicators (PAPIs), Visual Approach Slope Indicators (VASIs), Pulse Light Approach Slope Indicator (PLASIs), etc. However, there is no requirement for Flight Inspection of **VGSIs** for visual runways.

VGSIs meeting the criteria outlined in paragraph 2 of this RGL, but installed prior to June 21, 2004 were grandfathered. The grandfathered VGSIs may remain in service without a commissioning-type flight inspection until reconfigured to new systems or the addition of electronic vertical guidance to that runway. The term reconfigured means, the addition of new VGSIs boxes, conversion from VASI to PAPI, and relocations.

In conjunction with guidance contained in AC 150-5340-30, Design and Installation for Airport Visual Aids the airport sponsor should follow the following procedure to obtain non-fed VGSIs flight inspections:

1. Identify non-fed VGSIs projects meeting the criteria for flight inspection outlined in paragraph 2 of this RGL that have not been flight inspected.
2. Be aware of the requirement to flight inspect VGSIs prior to commissioning.
3. As flight inspection requires data, submit the VGSIs data using the attached form.

Point of contact for data questions:

NFDC West (OKC) AJV-21

405-954-4630, -7937, -8927, or -5482

Email: 9-AMC-AVN-AVN210-DATA@FAA.GOV

4. For scheduling and to discuss funding contact:

Scheduling:

James Field
Operations Specialist
ATO-AJW-391
Phone No.: 405-954-9318
Cell No.: 405-646-6530
Email: james.d.field@faa.gov

Funding:

Georgia Hines
Agreement Coordinator
ATO-AJW-392
Phone No.: 405-954-8545
Email: georgia.hines@faa.gov

Douglas Vaz
Manager, Flight Program Services Group
ATO-AJW-39
Phone No.: 405-954-2479
Cell No.: 405-250-2799
Email: douglas.vaz@faa.gov

Flight inspections required for maintenance of existing VGSI that have been commissioned will be provided by the Agency Operations Appropriation. Flight Inspection required for new installations, (commissioning) and reconfigurations must be funded by the sponsor. This could be via an agreement with Flight Inspection Services, or F&E appropriation (Ref. FAA Order 8240.32).

Flight Inspection Services continues a surveillance program to monitor existing VGSI.

Southern Region Point of contact

Terry Washington,
ASO-610W,
404-305-6722

/Signed by/

James Castleberry
Manager, Planning & Programming Branch

DATA INFORMATION FOR VGSI FACILITIES

Date Facility Installed:

If Not Installed, Estimated Installation Date:

REQUIRED DATA

Airport Name:		Location:
Runway:	Airport Identifier:	Owner of VGSI:
Type of VGSI:		
Number of Light Boxes. Indicate Left or Right side of Runway (L/R):		
Distance from the Runway Reference Point (RRP) to the runway threshold (or the displaced threshold if one exists). Enter distance to the nearest foot.		feet
Angle to which the VGSI is set. Enter to the hundredth of a degree.		degrees
Threshold Crossing Height at threshold (or displaced threshold if one exists). Enter to the tenth of a foot.		feet
Elevation of the runway centerline at the RRP. Enter to the tenth of a foot. (Ex. 750.2) Submit elevations in NAVD88 vertical datum (may be in EGM-96 if military)		feet

PROVIDE FOLLOWING DATA IF AVAILABLE

Coordinates for both ends of the runway and all displaced thresholds.			
Use NAD/83 horizontal datum (may be in WGS/84 EGM-96, if military).			
Data on record at flight check can be viewed at: http://webdatasheet.faa.gov/			
Runway #	Latitude (hundredth of a second)	Longitude (hundredth of a second)	Elevation (tenth of a foot)
Pilot Control Lights (PCL) (Y/N): ____ If yes, frequency: _____			
Hours of Ops: _____ to _____			

SUBMITTED BY

Name:	Date:
Title:	Phone:
Organization:	E-mail:

Send data forms to AJV-213 by e-mail to 9-AMC-AVN-AVN210-DATA@FAA.GOV

Questions? Call (405) 954-4630, -7937, -8927, or -5482