

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
Air Traffic Organization Policy

N JO 7110.785

Effective Date:
September 30, 2022

Cancellation Date:
November 3, 2022

SUBJ: Vehicles/Equipment/Personnel Near/On Runways

- 1. Purpose of This Notice.** This notice transmits revised language for FAA Order JO 7110.65Z, Air Traffic Control, paragraph 3-1-5, Vehicles/Equipment/Personnel Near/On Runways, responsive to a request from the Runway Safety Group, AJI-1400.
- 2. Audience.** This notice applies to the following Air Traffic Organization (ATO) service units: Air Traffic Services, Mission Support Services, Safety and Technical Training, Technical Operations, and all associated air traffic facilities.
- 3. Where Can I Find This Notice?** This notice is available on the MyFAA employee website at https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/ and on the air traffic publications website at http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/.
- 4. Explanation of Policy Change.** This change provides a reference in FAA Order JO 7110.65 to the requirements in FAA Order JO 7210.3, Facility Operation and Administration, to help increase awareness that a letter of agreement (LOA) is required for operations in a runway safety area (RSA). This change adds the words "when established in a letter of agreement," and "in the runway safety area (RSA)" to the current paragraph along with a reference to FAA Order JO 7210.3, paragraph 4-3-1, Letters of Agreement. In addition, this change removes "when necessary" and "Provide advisories as specified in paragraph 3-1-6, Traffic Information, and paragraph 3-7-5, Precision Approach Critical Area, as appropriate.", which are redundant. It also changes "the control tower" to "ATC" and "direct communications" to "two-way communications" to conform with conventions established in this order. Finally, it removes "active" when describing the runway, and inserts the qualifying phrase "which includes when aircraft are arriving, departing, or taxiing along the runway" to make it explicitly clear that this activity may be authorized during those times. Language associated with providing advisories is removed as it is covered in another section of this order.
- 5. Action.** Amend FAA Order JO 7110.65Z, paragraph 3-1-5, Vehicles/Equipment/Personnel Near/On Runways, subparagraph a. to read:

3-1-5. VEHICLES/EQUIPMENT/PERSONNEL NEAR/ON RUNWAYS

a. When established in a letter of agreement (LOA), vehicles, equipment, and personnel in two-way communications with ATC may be authorized to operate in the runway safety area (RSA) up to the edge of the runway surface, which includes when aircraft are arriving, departing, or taxiing along the runway.

PHRASEOLOGY—

PROCEED AS REQUESTED; (and if necessary, additional instructions or information)

REFERENCE –

FAA Order JO 7210.3, Paragraph 4-3-1, Letters of Agreement

NOTE –

DoD-only airfields - See Service Manual and/or local operating procedures for guidance on aerodrome operations and LOA requirements.

No further changes to this paragraph

6. Distribution. This notice is distributed to the following ATO service units: Air Traffic Services, Mission Support Services, System Operations, Safety and Technical Training, and Technical Operations; the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service; the William J. Hughes Technical Center; and the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center.

7. Background. The Runway Safety Group, AJI-1400, has identified numerous events where vehicles/equipment/personnel were operating in the RSA while aircraft were using the runway for takeoffs/landings. FAA Order JO 7210.3 authorizes operations within an RSA during aircraft operations. This authorization is contingent upon the establishment of an LOA between the airport operator, ATC, and the FAA Technical Operations office supporting the airport defining the specific activities permitted in the RSA during aircraft operations.

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