



Federal Aviation Administration

National Part 139 CertAlert

****Advisory**Cautionary**Non-Directive**Advisory**Cautionary**Non-Directive**Advisory**Cautionary**Non-Directive****

Date: 12/16/2021

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To: All Title 14 CFR Part 139 Airport Operators

Subject: NOTAM examples for Airport Operations/Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) frequency monitoring during air traffic contingency operations

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1. Purpose. This CertAlert provides NOTAM examples for the airport operator to use during contingency procedures for air traffic facilities in regards to Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) frequency monitoring, when the air traffic facility has an unplanned and immediate closure during normal hours of operation.

2. Background. Recent discussions with FAA Air Traffic Operations (ATO) facility managers revealed concerns by some air carriers on the need to ensure facilities subjected to unplanned and immediate air traffic closures have communication contingency plans in place. One area of concern was the notification process for ARFF responses, during unplanned air traffic facility closures. Although there are no documented instances where ARFF was not available during air carrier operations, airport operators need to ensure there are defined procedures in place, for towered Part 139 airports. The defined procedures should clearly indicate how the airport is managing ARFF communications during unplanned air traffic facility closures that occur during air carrier operations. There are a variance of frequencies identified for ARFF communications and monitoring (CTAF, local control, approach control, etc.) but the potential for communication lapses could occur if there are no defined procedures in place between the airport operator and local air traffic control facility. Distinct local procedures should be established for ARFF notification and response, for air carrier operations.

3. Action. Airport operators are encouraged to use the following NOTAM examples when addressing unplanned and immediate air traffic facility tower closures:

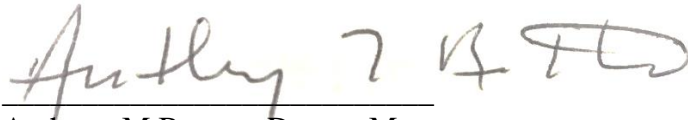
ARFF monitoring published tower frequency (No CTAF):

...AD AP ARFF MNT XXX.XX YYMMDDHHMM – YYMMDDHHMM

...AD AP ARFF MNT LOCAL CTL XXX.XX, GND CTL XXX.XX YYMMDDHHMM – YYMMDDHHMM

ARFF monitoring published CTAF:

...AD AP ARFF MNT CTAF XXX.XX YYMMDDHHMM – YYMMDDHHMM

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Anthony M Butters", followed by a stylized flourish or mark.

Anthony M Butters, Deputy Manager
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