

ICAO GRF - Global Reporting Format Implementation

Webinar, 09.12.2020



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GRF concept:

history and background information



What is 'GRF' about?

ICAO Global Reporting Format is «a globally harmonized) methodology of assessing and reporting runway surface conditions that impact aircraft operations safety»

The **GRF** method:

- → enables a standardized correlation between runway conditions and aircraft performance;
- → aims to improve the flight crew assessment of take-off and landing performance;
- → promotes the mitigation of runway excursion risk.



Global → unique common 'code' spoken by all the players, on a global basis

Reporting → focused on reporting runway conditions to the final user

Format → use of standardized information layout

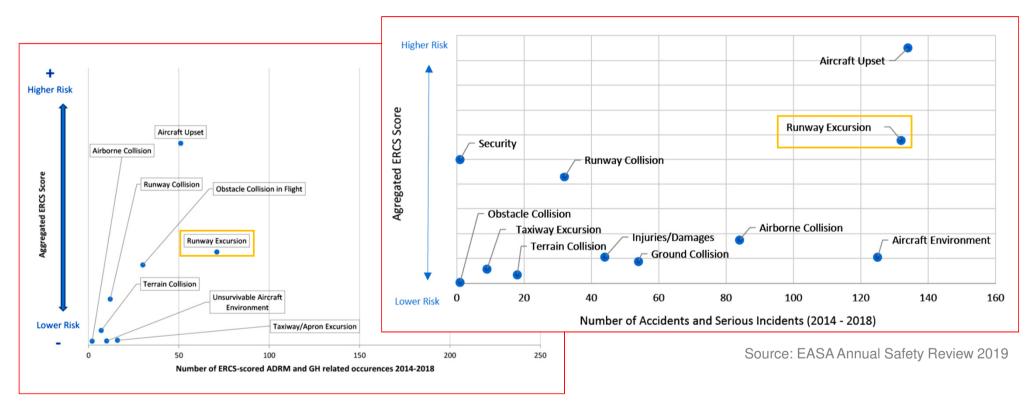


Entry into force:

Worldwide as of 4 Nov. 2021 but in EU MS as of 12 Aug. 2021



Runway excursions are still a **safety concern** ...



... runway surface condition may be a contributory factor !



Contaminated runway was a contributing factor in 57% of runway excursions accidents



- Runway excursions have been consistently one of the most frequent accident categories classified, representing 30% of accidents in HY 2020.
- Since 2011, there have been 148 runway/taxiway
 excursions that met the IATA Accident definition. 42% (62)
 of these accidents were a runway overrun, and 58% (86) a
 lateral excursion.

Contaminated runway

Out of these 148 accidents, 28% (41) had Contaminated runway – poor braking action as a contributing factor, with an increase in accident rate during the first half of 2020.

76% (31) Jet aircraft **22% (9)** Hull losses

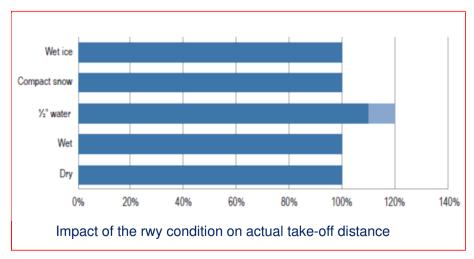
Accident data updated as of 30 June 2020

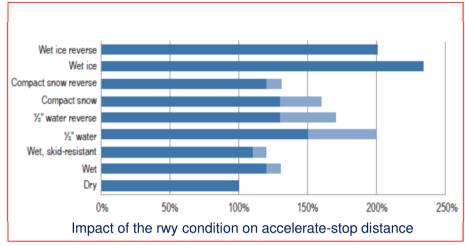


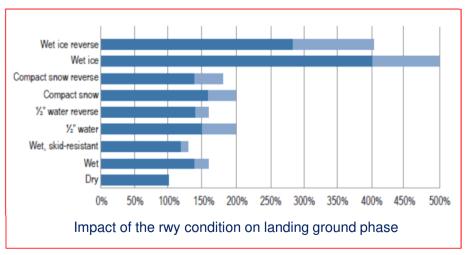


How does runway surface condition affect aircraft performance ...

- ... when landing?
- ... when taking off?







Source: ICAO Circular 355

Chicago Midway runway overrun and collision (2005), a turning point ...

Dec. 8th 2005, 19.14 - SWA flight 1248 (B737) ran off the Runway 31C after landing at MDW.

'The aircraft rolled through a blast fence, an airport perimeter fence, and onto an adjacent roadway, where it struck a car before coming to a stop.'



<u>Outcome</u>

- a child killed and 1 pax seriously injuried in the car
- other 3 car pax and 18 out of 103 acft occupants injuried
- airplane substantially damaged



US NTSB (National Transportation Saferty Board) Investigation

Probable cause of accident

'Pilots' failure to use available reverse thrust in a timely manner to safely slow or stop the airplane after landing, during a challenging landing.'

Contributing factors (among others):

'Airlines' failure to

- provide its pilots with clear and consistent guidance and training regarding [...] landing distance calculations;
- include a margin of safety in the arrival assessment to account for operational uncertainties.'





NTSB - Additional findings [abstract]

- lack of consistent airline guidance, training, policies, procedures on interpretation of braking action reports and the assumptions affecting landing distance assessments;
- urgent need for:
 - ⇒ guidance to Pilots, ATCO and Aerodrome Personnel on braking action and contaminant type and depth reports to minimize subjectivity;
 - ⇒ means of correlating acft braking ability with rwy surface condition for reliable assessment of airplane's landing performance capability;
 - ⇒ an operationally feasible, airplane-based, acft braking ability / runway condition assessment & reporting system;
- use of the most conservative information to increase the landing safety margin.'



Methods in use for runway condition assessment and reporting (2005)

- runway contaminant (type and depth) 'observations'
 - no clear correlation between contaminant and acft performance
- ⇒ ground friction measurements (measured / calculated coefficient)
 - no agreed correlation between friction values and acft braking capability
 - unreliability of CFMEs under certain condition
 - meaningless, not usable for landing distance calculations
- ⇒ pilot braking action reports
 - subjective judgement, reflecting individual perceptions
 - sensitive to airplane type and deceleration methods used



NTSB Recommendation to FAA

- to issue standards and guidelines for the development, delivery, and interpretation of runway surface condition reports;
- to establish standards for correlating acft braking ability to braking action reports and rwy contaminant type/depth reports for rwy surface conditions other than 'dry';
- to require aircraft operators to:
 - conduct arrival landing distance assessments incorporating a 15% safety margin;
 - provide guidance and training to pilots / dispatcher on surface condition and braking action reports and assumptions affecting landing distance calculations.



need for a 'global approach' ...

ADR OPERATOR



AIS / ATS / MET



ADR operator to assess the runway sfc condition and provide the relevant information to AIS/ATS

AIS / ATS to disseminate the relevant information in a timely manner to pilots

ACFT OPERATOR / **MANUFACTURERS**



Pilots to use the information for acft landing performance calculation purposes

... and a 'common language' for all the players!



The TALPA - Take-off And Landing Performance Assessment Project

TALPA ARC - Aviation Rulemaking Committee, established by FAA in 2008:

- based on NTSB recommendations following MDW accident
- involving different stakeholders: NAA, Aircraft Operators & Manufacturers, Airports
- objective:

addressing the aircraft 'take-off and landing performance assessment' issue by means of real-time communications of rwy conditions (from airports to pilots) expressed in terms directly related to the expected aircraft performance.

Source: TALPA ARC Aiport/Part 139 Working Group Recommendation (2009)



TALPA ARC Recommendations, 2009

- ⇒ focus on performance data provided by the aircraft manufacturers for given runway conditions;
- ⇒ definition of a Paved Rwy Condition Assessment Table (Matrix), a tool for:
 - aerodrome operators to perform rwy surface assessments;
 - pilots to interpret the reported runway conditions

'in a standardized format based on acft performance data supplied by aircraft manufacturers for each of the stated contaminant types and depths.'

TALPA ARC Airport/Part 139 Working Group Recommendation April 9, 2009

Background: Following the overrun of a Boeing 737 at Midway in December of 2005 the FAA found that the current state of the industry practices did not have adequate guidance and regulation addressing the operation on ton-day, non-west rurway, is, occutaminated runways. As youth they chartered an Avidace Rufersking Commisce (ARC1) and address Takeed and Landing Performance Assessment (TALPA) requirements for the appropriate part 23, 25, 91K, 121, 125, 135, and 139 Parts of 14 CFR. In formulating their recommendations in became clear to the ARC that the ability to communicate actual rurway conditions to the pilots in real time and in terms that directly relate to expected aircraft performance was critical to the success of the project. While researching current NOTAM processes numerous significant short comings were discovered that humpered this occuramination effort. This document provides NOTAM formatting recommendations and reporting procedures intended for a digital communication process that would support this major safety initiative and resolve the identified short comings. Without accurate real time information pilots cannot safely assess takeoff or landing performance.

At the core of this recommendation is the concept of using the included Paved Rumway Comilition Assessment Table (the matrix) as the basis for performing retwork continuous assessments by airport operators, unifor incorporing the reported runway conditions by pilots in a standardized format beside in stiplane performance data supplied by airplane manufacturers for each of the stated contaminant types and depths. The concept attempts, to the maximum extent feasible, to replace subjective judgments of numery conditions with objective assessments which are tied directly to contaminant type and depth categories, which have been determined by airplane manufacturers to cause specific changes in the airplane braking performance. However, since the concept is radically different from the traditional practices in this area, several caves as or impegal to this recommendation:

In order to succeed, this concept will require extensive retraining of airport operations personnel, dispatchers and pilots to assure that the application of the matrix is consistent across airports and that interpretation of the results and reporting of braking performance via PIREPs is consistent with the terms of the matrix. Specific training issues requiring attention are identified in Appendix A.

Since the matrix has only been tested at two airports for a portion of the winter of 2008/2009, and some potential discrepancies between the matrix and both airport personnel assessments and PIREPs have been identified under certain conditions, a much more extensive pilot program should be conducted during the winter of 2009/2010. This pilot program should involve 10 – 20 nitports and require standardized documentation that can be analyzed in support of refinements to the matrix or the accompanying instructions, if warranted. This pilot program might be conducted under the auspices of the Commercial Aviation Safety Team, using the ASIAS program, with its capability of employing FOQUA data to correlate individual airplane stopping performance with nanway condition assessment codes in effect at the time. It would also be highly desirable to have airline participation in the pilot momercan.

During the course of this ARC work effort, numerous cases were identified by the airportPart 139 working group where various FAA guidance documents use inconsistent terms or definitions. A therough harmonization of other guidance documents with this recommendation should be undertaken. The documents sidentified by the working course are fasted in Amendia's B.

Advisory Circular 150: 5200-50 was amended last winter to address the immediate needs of chosing a remway upon receipt of a "nil" braking action report and taking specific actions upon receipt of two successive "poor" braking action reports. There is a pressing acud to further revise that AC before next winter to clarify the appropriate method of returning a runway to service after a closing due to "nil" braking reports and to address other accessinencies the working group has dentified.

Because of the close interrelationship between performing rummay condition assessments and the reporting of those assessments, these recommendations are presented in two sections; used as sections must be considered as integral to the overall recommendation. The first section addresses many condition assessment using the matrix and the second section addresses changes to the reporting system that should be incorporated into the revisions to the NOTAM system, currently being designed. While the use of the matrix as the basis for unlimite signlementation of rummys condition assessment and reporting is the core recommendation of the working group, it must be treated as a "living document" and any changes that result from additional experience gained during the pilot program, or otherwise, must be fully coordinated with all stakebolders and incorporated into both sections of this recommendation.



TALPA-ARC Matrix

(final version, after validation)

The Matrix aims at providing:

- ⇒ objective assessments
- ⇒ directly related to contaminant type/depth categories
- ⇒ determined by acft manufacturers to cause specific changes in acft braking performance

Related procedures: FAA AC No:150/5200-28F

Source: FAA - Technical Note DOT/FAA/TC-TN13/22 (June 2013)

Assessment Criteria		Downgrade Assessment Criteria			
Code	Runway Condition Description	M (h	u) 1	Vehicle Deceleration Or Directional Control Observation	PIREP
6	• Dry				
5	Frost Wet (Includes Damp and 1/8" or less depth of Water) 1/8" or less depth of: Slush Dry Snow Wet Snow		40 or Higher	Braking deceleration is normal for the wheel braking effort applied AND directional control is normal.	Good
4	-15°C and Colder outside air temperature: • Compacted Snow	39		Braking deceleration OR directional control is between Good and Medium.	Good to Medium
3	Wet ("Slippery when wet" runway) Dry Snow or Wet Snow (Any depth) over Compacted Snow Greater than 1/8" depth of: Dry Snow Wet Snow Warmer than -15°C outside air temperature: Compacted Snow	to		Braking deceleration is noticeably reduced for the wheel braking effort applied OR directional control is noticeably reduced.	Medium
2	Greater than 1/8" depth of: • Water • Slush	8	29 to 21	Braking deceleration OR directional control is between Medium and Poor.	Medium to Poor
1	• Ice ²	2		Braking deceleration is significantly reduced for the wheel braking effort applied OR directional control is significantly reduced.	Poor
0	Wet Ice ² Water on top of Compacted Snow ² Dry Snow or Wet Snow over Ice ²	20 or Lower		Braking deceleration is minimal to non-existent for the wheel braking effort applied OR directional control is uncertain.	Nil



ICAO regulatory framework



ICAO activities to address the issue of rwy sfc conditions assessment and reporting methods - ICAO Friction Task Force (est. 2008):

- focused on addressing shortcomings in ICAO SARPs
- multidisciplinary approach, key industry experts / stakeholders
- review, update and recommend changes to the existing provisions

FTF Phase 1 (2008-2011)

- revised Annex 14 and 15, reporting procedure,
- revised Snowtam Form (ESF, no longer 'Mu')
- publication of Circular 329

FTF Phase 2 (2011-2020)

- development of Global Reporting Format concept (2016)
- proposed amendments to SARPs (FTF / AIS-AIM Study Group)
- ICAO Circular 355

2008

2011

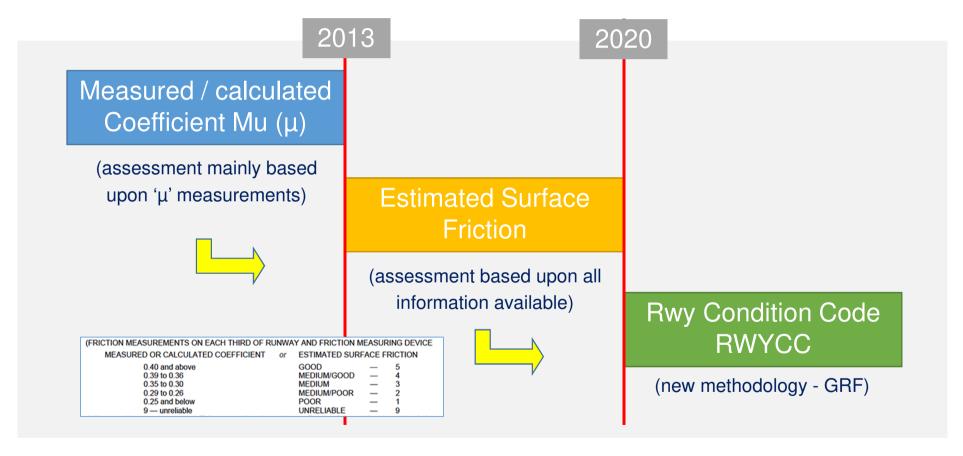


2016

2020



ICAO - Evolution of of rwy condition assessment methodology and philosophy ...





Adoption of GRF - coordinated amendment of ICAO Annexes & Docs ICAO ...

Annex 3 (Meteor. Service ...)

Annex 6-II (Operations of acft)

Annex 8 (Airworthiness of acft)

Annex 14-I (Aerodromes)

Annex 11 (ATS)

Annex 15 (AIS)



Doc 9981 PANS - Aerodromes

Doc 10066 PANS - AIM

Doc 4444 PANS - ATM

Doc 10064 Acft Performance Manual*



^{*} new, unedited version



... towards a 'global approach' ... **ACFT OPERATOR** AIS / ATS / MET **ADR OPERATOR ACFT MANUFACTURERS** ANNEX 3 (MET) ANNEX 14 (ADR) ANNEX 6 (OPS) ANNEX 11 (ATS) Doc 9981 PANS-ADR ANNEX 8 (AW) Circular 355 ANNEX 15 (AIS) Doc 10064 APM

... and a 'common language'

Doc 4444 PANS-ATM



ANNEX 14 Vol. I Aerodromes (Ed. 7th - Amdt 13-B)

Main changes relating to GRF:

[1.1] Definitions (RCAM, RWYCC, RCR, rwy condition descriptors, rwy surface conditions: 'dry', 'wet', 'slippery wet', 'contaminated')

[2.9] Condition of the movement area and related facilities

[10.2] Pavements (maintenance)

[10.3] Removal of contaminants

[Att. A6] Reporting of runway surface condition (RCR concept, RWYCC, RCAM, training of personnel)





Associated objectives and operational practices are described in Doc 9981



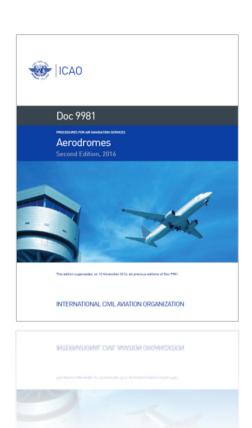
ICAO Doc 9981 PANS-Aerodromes (2nd Ed. 2016)

Part II Aerodrome Operational Management

- Ch. 1_ Reporting format using standard runway condition report [1.1] Runway surface condition assessment and reporting
 - General
 - Objectives
 - Operational practices (RCR, RWYCC, RCAM)

[Att. A] Methods of assessing runway surface condition

(for maintenance purposes)



Source: ICAO Doc 9981



Philosophy of Runway Condition Reporting

Assessing & reporting the rwy / movement area condition is necessary to provide crew with the information needed for safe operation of acft.

- ADR Operator is required to assess runway conditions whenever water, snow, slush, ice or frost are present on an operational rwy.
- The assessment is based on contaminant type / depth / coverage (information to be kept updated, changes reported without delay).
- Flight crews use the reported information for aircraft performance calculations.





ICAO Circular 355 - Global Reporting Format in a nutshell ...

'GRF is a validated method replacing subjective judgements with objective assessments directly related to criteria relevant for aircraft performance, determined by the aircraft manufacturers.'

It is based on 5 fundamental elements:

- Runway Surface Condition
- Runway Surface Condition Descriptor
- RWYCC (RunWaY Condition Code)
- RCAM (Runway Condition Assessment Matrix)
- RCR (Runway Condition Report)





Runway Surface Conditions

A runway may be: 'dry', 'wet', 'slippery wet' or 'contaminated'.

Runway Surface Condition Descriptors (contaminants):

- compacted snow
- dry snow
- frost
- ice
- slush
- standing water
- wet ice
- wet snow





A runway is **contaminated** when the coverage is more than 25% of the surface of at least one third; below this threshold, it is assumed to be dry.

Aircraft performance is considered to be impacted whenever coverage on any rwy third exceeds 25%



RWYCC - **Runway Condition Code** is a numerical code (0-6) used in the RCR to describe the effect of surface condition on aircraft performance (reported for each rwy third).

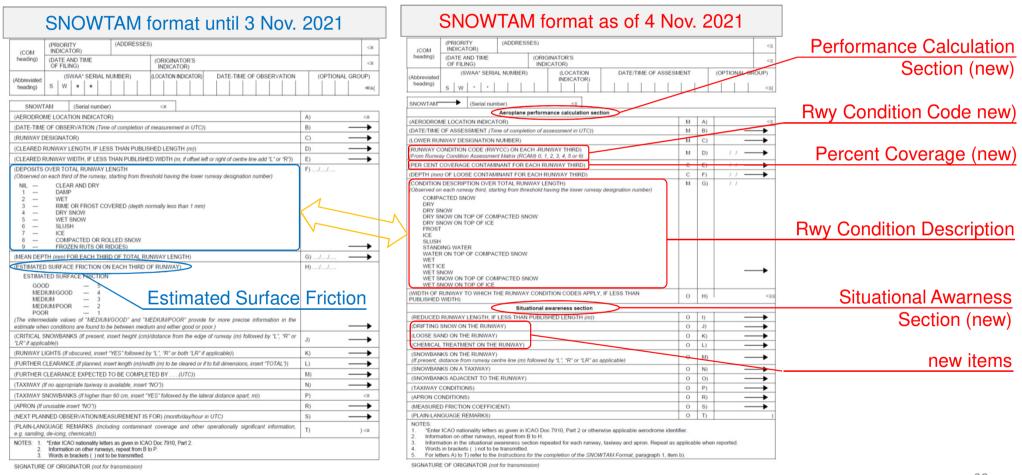
RCAM – Runway Condition Assessment Matrix is a tool used to determine the Runway Condition Code.

RCR - Runway Condition Report is a standardized report relating to runway surface condition and its effect on aircraft performance.





PANS AIM (Doc 10066) Appendix 4 - New Snowtam Format





Remember ...

- The intent of the assessment and reporting procedures is to communicate
 the runway surface conditions to aircraft operators in a way that is consistent
 with the effect on aircraft performance.
- The purpose of the RCR is to establish a common language between all system actors, based on the impact of runway conditions on aircraft performance.
- It is **essential** for aerodrome personnel **to accurately report runway condition** rather than seek a systematically conservative assessment of RWYCC ('conservatism' is different from motivated 'downgrade').







Adoption of GRF at EU level

EASA Rulemaking process aimed at adopting the GRF was based on:

- FAA TALPA ARC work
- ICAO Annexes (3, 6, 8, 11, 14*, 15)
- ICAO Docs (9981, 10066, 4444, 10064) & Circular 355
- Safety Recommendations issued by Accident Investigation Boards
- EAPPRE Recommendations



* Ed. 7th - Amdt 13-B

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EASA regulatory process/overview principles



- Follow ICAO provisions
 - To support global application and implement the GRF
- Keep a balance between implementing rules (IR), acceptable means of compliance (AMC) and guidance material (GM)
 - Reviewing and analysing every ICAO provision
 - Basic principles of the GRF kept at rule level to prohibit deviations
 - Procedural issues included in the acceptable means of compliance to allow some flexibility in the implementation
 - Extensive guidance material provided in order to explain the GRF

Source: EASA



EASA Regulatory Process ... in a nutshell



3 coordinated RMT (Rulemaking Tasks) addressing ...



AIR OPS / IAW RMT.0296 ADR / ATM / ANS RMT.0704 **AIS / MET RMT. 0477**

RMT.0296

Review of the aeroplanes performance requirements for CAT operations

RMT.0704

Runway condition assessment and reporting (+ RMT.0703 'Runway Safety')

RMT.0477

Technical requirements and operational procedures for AIS and AIM

Source: EASA



As a result of the 3 RMGs, coordinated amendments to

- Reg. EU 2017/373
- Reg. EU **965**/2012
- Reg. EU 139/2014
- Reg. EU **923**/2012
- + EASA AMC/GM

- > Opinion 02/2018
- > Opinion 02/2019
- > Opinion 03/2019
- > Opinion 03/2019

- > Reg. EU 2020/**469**
- > Reg. EU 2019/**1387**
- > (publication pending)
- > (publication pending)

Opinion 2/2018 – Changes to Reg. (EU) 2017/373 – AIS & MET Opinion 2/2019 – Changes to Reg. (EU) 965/2012 – Air Operations Opinion 3/2019 - Changes to Reg. (EU) 139/2014 -Aerodromes & Reg. (EU) 923/2012 - Standardized European Rules of the Air & Reg. (EU) 2017/373 -ATM/ANS

Upcoming ED Decisions – CS/AMC/GM



Source: EASA





Changes stemming from EASA Regulation



Definitions - SNOWTAM

- Addition of two (2) new terms for describing runway surface condition
 - Specially prepared winter runway
 - Runway covered with compacted snow or ice, which has received special treatment and has improved friction characteristics (RWYCC greater than 3)
 - Slippery wet
 - Associated with RWYCC 3 when the runway is wet and below the minimum friction level
- Changes to the SNOWTAM Format
 - To include the two terms above
 - To simplify the situational awareness section in order to avoid long NOTAM strings



Changes stemming from EASA Regulation



METAR – Reporting

- Changes to the METAR Format
 - Removal of runway surface conditions
- Obligation of the PIC to report back when braking action encountered is not as good as reported
- Obligation of the ATS to report to the aerodrome operator when a pilot indicates that the braking action is not as good as reported.

New Rs relating to the adoption of GRF (Opinion 03/2019)

- ADR.OPS.A.057 Origination of NOTAM
- ADR.OPS.A.060 Reporting of sfc contaminants
- ADR.OPS.A.065 Reporting of the rwy sfc condition
- ADR.OPS.B.036 Ops on specially prepared winter rwys
- ADR.OPS.B.037 Assessment of rwy sfc condition ...
- + related EASA AMC/GM







Thanks for your attention

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