
CHAPTER 10 AERODROME MAINTENANCE

10.1 General

10.1.1 A maintenance programme, including preventive maintenance where appropriate, shall be established at an aerodrome to maintain facilities in a condition which does not impair the safety, regularity or efficiency of air navigation.

Note 1: - Preventive maintenance is programmed maintenance work done in order to prevent a failure or degradation of facilities.

Note 2: - "Facilities" are intended to include such items as pavements, visual aids, fencing, drainage systems and buildings.

10.1.2 The design and application of the maintenance programme shall observe Human Factors principles.

Note: - Guidance material on Human Factors principles can be found in the Human Factors Training Manual.

10.2 Pavements

10.2.1 The surface of pavements (runways, taxiways, aprons, etc.) shall be kept clear of any loose stones or other objects that might cause damage to aircraft structures or engines, or impair the operation of aircraft systems.

Note: - Guidance on precautions to be taken in regard to the surface of shoulders is given in Attachment A, Section 8, and the Aerodrome Design Manual, Part 2.

10.2.2 The surface of a runway shall be maintained in a condition such as to preclude formation of harmful irregularities.

Note: - See Attachment A, Section 5.

10.2.3 Measurement of friction characteristics of a runway surface shall be made periodically with continuous friction measuring device using self wetting features.

Note: - Guidance on evaluating the friction characteristics of a runway surface is provided in **Chapter 2 para.2.10.7**

- 10.2.4 Corrective maintenance action shall be taken when the friction characteristics for either the entire runway or a portion thereof are below a minimum friction level specified by the State.
- Note: - A portion of runway in the order of 100 m long may be considered significant for maintenance or reporting action.
- 10.2.5 Corrective maintenance action shall be considered when the friction characteristics for either the entire runway or a portion thereof are below a maintenance planning level specified by the State.
- 10.2.6 When there is reason to believe that the drainage characteristics of a runway, or portions thereof; are poor due to slopes or depressions, then the runway friction characteristics shall be assessed under natural or simulated conditions that are representative of local rain and corrective maintenance action shall be taken as necessary.
- 10.2.7 When a taxiway is used by turbine-engine aeroplanes, the surface of the taxiway shoulders shall be maintained so as to be free of any loose stones or other objects that could be ingested by the aeroplane engines.
- Note: - Guidance on this subject is given in the Aerodrome Design Manual, Part 2.
- 10.2.8 The surface of a paved runway shall be maintained in a condition so as to provide good friction characteristics and low rolling resistance. Snow, slush, ice, standing water, mud, dust, sand, oil, rubber deposits and other contaminants shall be removed as rapidly and completely as possible to minimize accumulation.
- Note: - Guidance on determining and expressing the friction characteristics when conditions of snow or ice cannot be avoided is given Attachment A, section 6. The Airport Services Manual Part 2, contains further information on this subject, on improving friction characteristics and on clearing of runways.
- 10.2.9 A taxiway shall be kept clear of snow, slush, ice, etc., to the extent necessary to enable aircraft to be taxied to and from an operational runway.
- 10.2.10 Aprons shall be kept clear of snow, slush, ice, etc., to the extent necessary to enable aircraft to manoeuvre safely or, where appropriate, to be towed or pushed.

10.2.11 Whenever the clearance of snow, slush, ice, etc., from the various parts of the movement area cannot be carried out simultaneously, the order of priority shall be as follows but may be altered following, as necessary, consultation with the aerodrome users:

1st - runway(s) in use;

2nd - taxiways serving runway(s) in use;

3rd - apron(s):

4th - holding bays; and

5th - other areas.

10.2.12 Chemicals to remove or to prevent the formation of ice and frost on aerodrome pavements shall be used when conditions indicate their use could be effective. Caution shall be exercised in the application of the chemicals so as not to create a more slippery condition.

Note: - Guidance on the use of chemicals for aerodrome pavements is given in the Airport Services Manual, Part 2.

10.2.13 Chemicals which may have harmful effects on aircraft or pavements, or chemicals which may have toxic effects on the aerodrome environment, shall not be used.

10.3 Runway pavement overlays

Note: - The following specifications are intended for runway pavement overlay projects when the runway is to be returned to an operational status before overlay of the entire runway is complete thus normally necessitating a temporary ramp between the new and old runway surfaces. Guidance on overlaying pavements and assessing their operational status is given in the Aerodrome Design Manual, Part 3.

10.3.1 The longitudinal slope of the temporary ramp, measured with reference to the existing runway surface or previous overlay course, shall be:

a) 0.5 to 1.0 per cent for overlays up to and including 5 cm in thickness; and

b) not more than 0.5 per cent for overlays more than 5 cm in thickness.

- 10.3.2 Overlaying shall proceed from one end of the runway toward the other end so that based on runway utilization most aircraft operations will experience a down ramp.
- 10.3.3 The entire width of the runway shall be overlaid during each work session.
- 10.3.4 Before a runway being overlaid is returned to a temporary operational status, a runway centre line marking conforming to the specifications in Section 5.2.3 shall be provided. Additionally, the location of any temporary threshold shall be identified by a 3.6 m wide transverse stripe.

10.4 Visual aids

Note. - These specifications are intended to define the maintenance performance level objectives. They are not intended to define whether the lighting system is operationally out of service.

- 10.4.1 A **light shall be** deemed to be **unserviceable** when the main beam **average intensity is less than 50 per cent** of the value specified in the **appropriate figure see Appendix 2, Annex-1, Vol-1**. For light units where the designed main beam average intensity is above the value **shown in Appendix 2, Annex-14, Vol-1**, the 50 per cent value shall be related to that design value.
- 10.4.2 A system of preventive maintenance of visual aids shall be employed to ensure lighting and marking system reliability.
- Note. - Guidance on preventive maintenance of visual aids is given in the Airport Services Manual, Part 9.
- 10.4.3 The system of preventive maintenance employed for a precision approach runway category II or III shall include at least the following checks:
- a) visual inspection and in-field measurement of the intensity, beam spread and orientation of lights included in the approach and runway lighting systems;
 - b) control and measurement of the electrical characteristics of each circuitry included in the approach and runway lighting systems; and
 - c) control of the correct functioning of light intensity settings used by air traffic control.

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- 10.4.4 In-field measurement of intensity, beam spread and orientation of lights included in approach and runway lighting systems for a precision approach runway category II or III shall be undertaken by measuring all lights, as far as practicable, **to ensure conformance with the applicable specification of Appendix 2, Annex-14, vol-1.**
- 10.4.5 Measurement of intensity, beam spread and orientation of lights included in approach and runway lighting systems for a precision approach runway category II or III shall be undertaken using a mobile measuring unit of sufficient accuracy to analyze the characteristics of the individual lights.
- 10.4.6 The frequency of measurement of lights for a precision approach runway category II or III shall be based on traffic density, the local pollution level, the reliability of the installed lighting equipment and the continuous assessment of the results of the in-field measurements but in any event shall not be less than twice a year for in-pavement lights and not less than once a year for other lights.
- 10.4.7 The system of preventive maintenance employed for a precision approach runway category II or III shall have as its objective that, during any period of category II or III operations, all approach and runway lights are serviceable, and that in any event at least:
- a) 95 per cent of the lights are serviceable in each of the following particular significant elements:
 - 1) Precision approach category II and III lighting system, the inner 450 m;
 - 2) Runway centre line lights;
 - 3) Runway threshold lights; and
 - 4) Runway edge lights;
 - b) 90 per cent of the lights are serviceable in the touchdown zone lights;
 - c) 85 per cent of the lights are serviceable in the approach lighting system beyond 450 m; and
 - d) 75 per cent of the lights are serviceable in the runway end lights.
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In order to provide continuity of guidance, the allowable percentage of unserviceable lights shall not be permitted in such a way as to alter the basic pattern of the lighting system. Additionally, an unserviceable light shall not be permitted adjacent to another unserviceable light, except in a barrette or a crossbar where two adjacent unserviceable lights may be permitted.

Note: - With respect to barrettes, crossbars and runway edge lights, lights are considered to be adjacent if located consecutively and:

Laterally: in the same barrette or crossbar; or

Longitudinally: in the same row of edge lights or barrettes.

10.4.8 The system of preventive maintenance employed for a stop bar provided at a runway-holding position used in conjunction with a runway intended for operations in runway visual range conditions less than a value of 350 m shall have the following objectives:

- a) no more than two lights will remain unserviceable; and
- b) two adjacent lights will not remain unserviceable unless the light spacing is significantly less than that specified.

10.4.9 The system of preventive maintenance employed for a taxiway intended for use in runway visual range conditions less than a value of 350 m shall have as its objective that no two adjacent taxiway centre line lights be unserviceable.

10.4.10 The system of preventive maintenance employed for a precision approach runway category I shall have as its objective that, during any period of category I operations, all approach and runway lights are serviceable, and that in any event at least 85 per cent of the lights are serviceable in each of the following:

- a) Precision approach category I lighting system;
- b) Runway threshold lights;
- c) Runway edge lights; and
- d) Runway end lights.

In order to provide continuity of guidance an unserviceable light shall not be permitted adjacent to another unserviceable light unless the light spacing is significantly less than that specified.

Note: - In barrettes and crossbars, guidance is not lost by having two adjacent unserviceable lights.

10.4.11 The system of preventive maintenance employed for a runway meant for take-off in runway visual range conditions less than a value of 550 m shall have as its objective that, during any period of operations, all runway lights are serviceable and that in any event:

- a) at least 95 per cent of the lights are serviceable in the runway centre line lights (where provided) and in the runway edge lights; and
- b) at least 75 per cent of the lights are serviceable in the runway end lights.

In order to provide continuity of guidance, an unserviceable light shall not be permitted adjacent to another unserviceable light.

10.4.12 The system of preventive maintenance employed for a runway meant for take-off in runway visual range conditions of a value of 550 m or greater shall have as its objective that, during any period of operations, all runway lights are serviceable and that, in any event, at least 85 per cent of the lights are serviceable in the runway edge lights and runway end lights. In order to provide continuity of guidance, an unserviceable light shall not be permitted adjacent to another unserviceable light.

10.4.13 During low visibility procedures the appropriate authority shall restrict construction or maintenance activities in the proximity of aerodrome electrical systems.

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