

Safety Bulletin



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Together for a Safe Winter Season

Winter places extra demands on collaboration, communication, and everyday safety.

As the season approaches, conditions at the airport can change rapidly. Cold weather, darkness, snow and ice require high standards for equipment, procedures, and teamwork. Winter operations are a team effort where every decision, report, and observation help us maintain safety in a more challenging environment.

We know how to handle winter. At the same time, each season is unique – weather, staffing, and circumstances vary. That's why we need to remind ourselves of the basics every year: talk to each other, consult with one another and share what we see – big or small.

What requires extra attention this winter?

- **Runway conditions:** Communication between field operations, airport operations, and air traffic control is crucial for safe decision-making.
- **FOD and snow:** Snow and ice can hide objects – inspect surfaces and equipment carefully. Scrape vehicle windows.
- **Visibility and lighting:** Darkness and blowing snow affect orientation – ask if you're unsure.
- **Human factors:** Cold, stress, and time pressure affect focus and communication. Pause, double-check, and ask colleagues for support – small check-ins make a big difference.
- **Experience:** Share lessons from previous winters – our own observations are the best source for improvement.

