



Airport Certification Information Bulletin (ACIB) 14-06

Subject: Maintaining Airport Owned Lighting Systems and Visual Aids

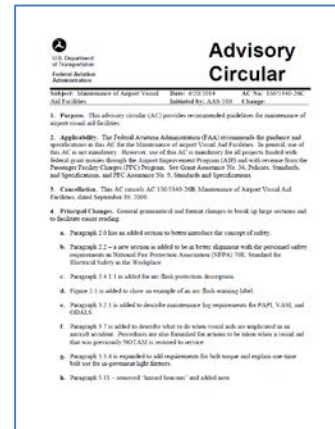
Incident: In May of 2014, an in-pavement runway light at a major U.S. airport became dislodged during the departure of a large airliner, causing damage to the fuselage of the aircraft. The incident was unknown to the flight crew at the time and continued twelve hours to their international destination, where subsequently the fixture was found lodged in the fuselage.



Certificated airports which own visual aid facilities are required to regularly inspect and properly maintain these systems. As a result of this incident, National CertAlert 14-03 was issued to address airport requirements in providing an effective maintenance program and to provide additional resources to achieve that aim. Use the link below to read FAA CertAlert 14-03:

http://www.faa.gov/airports/airport_safety/certalerts/media/cert1403.pdf

Related Advisory Circular (AC): The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has also recently revised AC 150/5340-26C, *Maintenance of Airport Visual Aid Facilities*. The AC provides a general framework your airport can use to establish a preventive maintenance program for equipment, which includes but is not limited to, in-pavement lighting, rotating beacons, lighted wind cone assemblies, precision approach path indicator systems (PAPI), and runway end identifier lights (REIL).



The AC includes a revision defining time interval terms “Quarterly”, “Semi-Annually” and “Annually”:

- Quarterly: A period not to exceed three consecutive calendar months.
- Semi-Annually: A period not to exceed six consecutive calendar months.
- Annually: A period not to exceed twelve consecutive calendar months.

The terms were defined to clarify the FAA’s maintenance/inspection interval expectations. Visual aid facilities require regular, scheduled inspection and maintenance in order to operate as intended.



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Airport Certification Safety Inspectors will apply these timeframe definitions to your airport's visual aid facilities inspection program. Visual aid facility maintenance defined as "Quarterly", "Semi-Annually" or "Annually" must follow these consecutive calendar month intervals in order to comply with 14 CFR Part 139.

We strongly encourage Certificate Holders to review their maintenance procedures and documentation. Use the AC to:

- Determine equipment inspection and maintenance intervals.
- Review and revise your visual aid facility inspection and maintenance documentation.
- Verify proper maintenance schedules to ensure compliance with 14 CFR Part-139 and Airport Grant Assurances.

Lastly, the airport must ensure the required inspections and maintenance intervals are properly documented.

Review AC 150/5340-26C online at FAA.gov:

http://www.faa.gov/documentlibrary/media/advisory_circular/150-5340-26c.pdf

If you have any questions concerning this bulletin, please contact your assigned Airport Certification / Safety Inspector.