

Runway Incursions at Toronto Airport

This Safety Bulletin is a reprint from our Member Association, ALPA-I, issued Safety Alert Bulletin 2017-01.

BACKGROUND

The Transportation Safety Board (TSB) of Canada issued Aviation Safety Advisory A17O0038-D1-A1 to alert flight crews of the potential for a runway incursion to occur while operating at the Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International Airport (CYYZ) airport. The TSB is conducting a Safety Issues Investigation (SII) that focuses on runway incursions. Since March 2017, there have been several runway incursions involving U.S. air carriers.

The CYYZ Airport layout consists of multiple intersecting and parallel runways supported by a complex set of controlled and uncontrolled taxiways. The airport identified ten hotspots where risks for incursions are high, which are depicted on airport diagram pages.

Most incursions have occurred during parallel runway operations to 06R/24L and 06L/24R. A review of the CYYZ airport charts revealed numerous notes and cautions. One of the notes highlights that operators be alert for Runway 06L/24R crossing clearances and be prepared to stop short of Runway 06L/24R.

The airport information pages also contain a note, which *only* applies to aircraft with wingspans 214 feet to 262 feet, that there is “no holding short of Runway 06L/24R after exit from Runway 06R/24L.”

RECOMMENDATIONS

ALPA urges all flight crews operating to CYYZ to carefully review the airport information, remain vigilant at all times, adhere to company policies and procedures when taxiing, and request clarification of ATC instructions prior to crossing a runway during taxi operations.

Any questions, please contact the ALPA Engineering and Air Safety Department at eas@alpa.org or 1-800 424-2470.