

# Runway Status Lights

## RWSL Production System Overview

Presented to: 2010 Annual IES/ALC Conference  
By: RWSL Program Management Office  
Date: October 19, 2010



Federal Aviation  
Administration



# Agenda

- **Operational Concept**
- **Production RWSL System Hardware Overview**
- **Upgrade Equipment to Production RWSL System**



# Operational Concept

- Automatic Performance Monitoring and Control
  - Continuous System Operational Status Reporting
  - Automatically Adjusts All Field Light Fixture Intensities to Adaptable Night and Day Settings
  - Automatically Adjusts to Changes in Directional Flow of Traffic without User Input
- Autonomous Failure Detection, Diagnostics, and Fault Isolation
  - Faulted Components are Automatically Changed to an Offline State
  - Critical Faults Result in the Entire RWSL System Being Taken Offline

# RWSL Objective

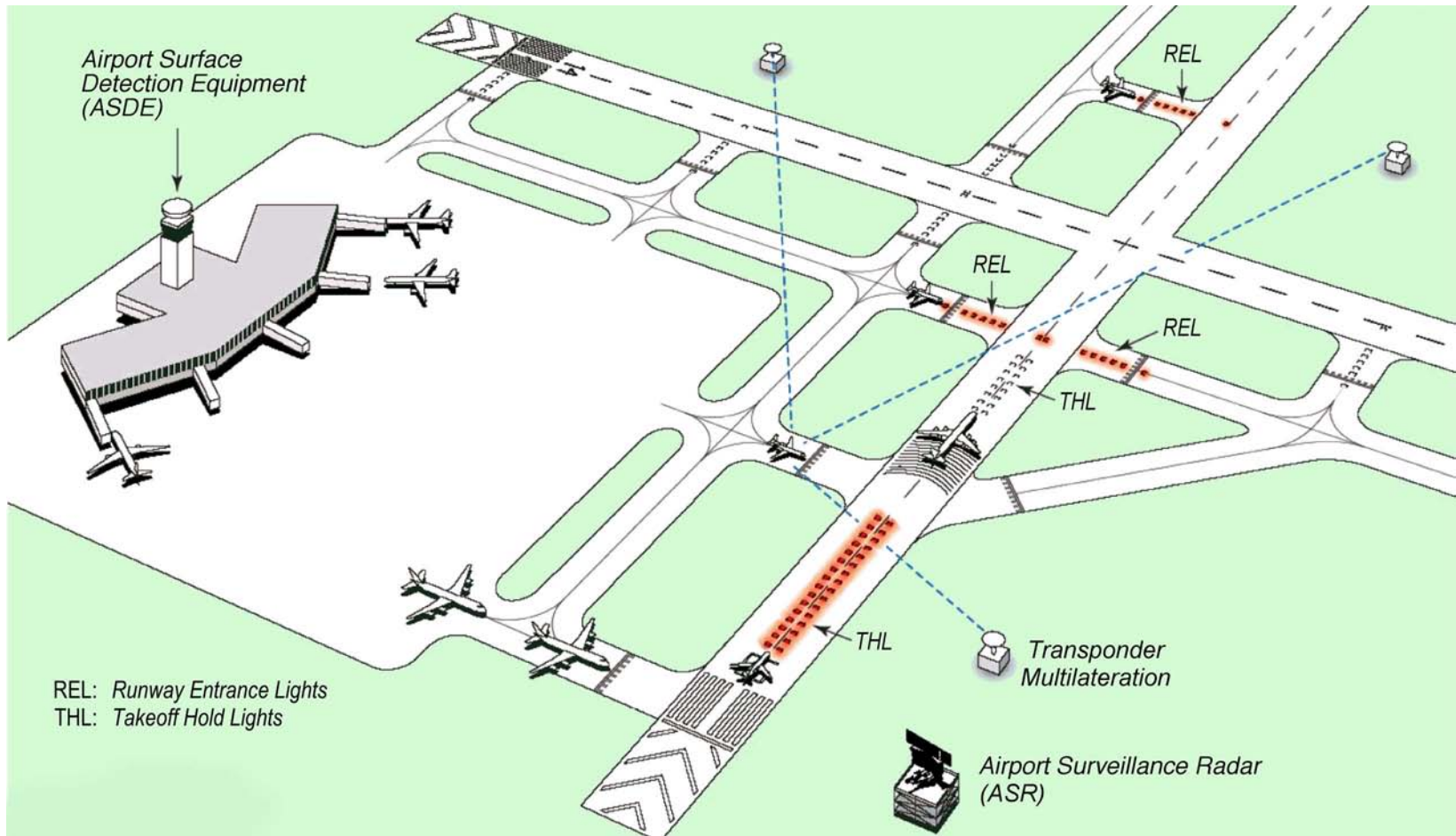
- RWSL Objective: Reduce the number of runway incursions without interfering with normal and safe airport operations
- The RWSL system reduces runway incursions by indicating to pilots and vehicle operators that a runway is unsafe for entry or crossing or that a runway is unsafe for departure
- Runway status lights display critical, time-sensitive safety status information directly to pilots and vehicle operators via in pavement lights giving them an immediate indication of potentially unsafe situations
- RWSL is a passive system that serves as an **added layer** of safety for the runway environment
- Runway status lights indicate runway status only; they do not indicate clearance



# System Description

- The RWSL system integrates approach and surface surveillance systems with airport lighting equipment to provide a visual signal to pilots and vehicle operators indicating that it is unsafe to enter/cross or begin takeoff on runway
- The system is fully automated based on inputs from surface and terminal surveillance systems
- Airport surveillance sensor inputs are processed through light control logic that commands in-pavement lights to illuminate red when there is traffic on or approaching the runway
  - **Runway Entrance Lights (REL)** provide signal to aircraft crossing or entering runway from intersecting taxiway
  - **Takeoff Hold Lights (THL)** provide signal to aircraft in position for takeoff

# Conceptual Diagram of the RWSL System





# RWSL REL and THL Arrays



## Runway Entrance Lights (RELs) L-852S

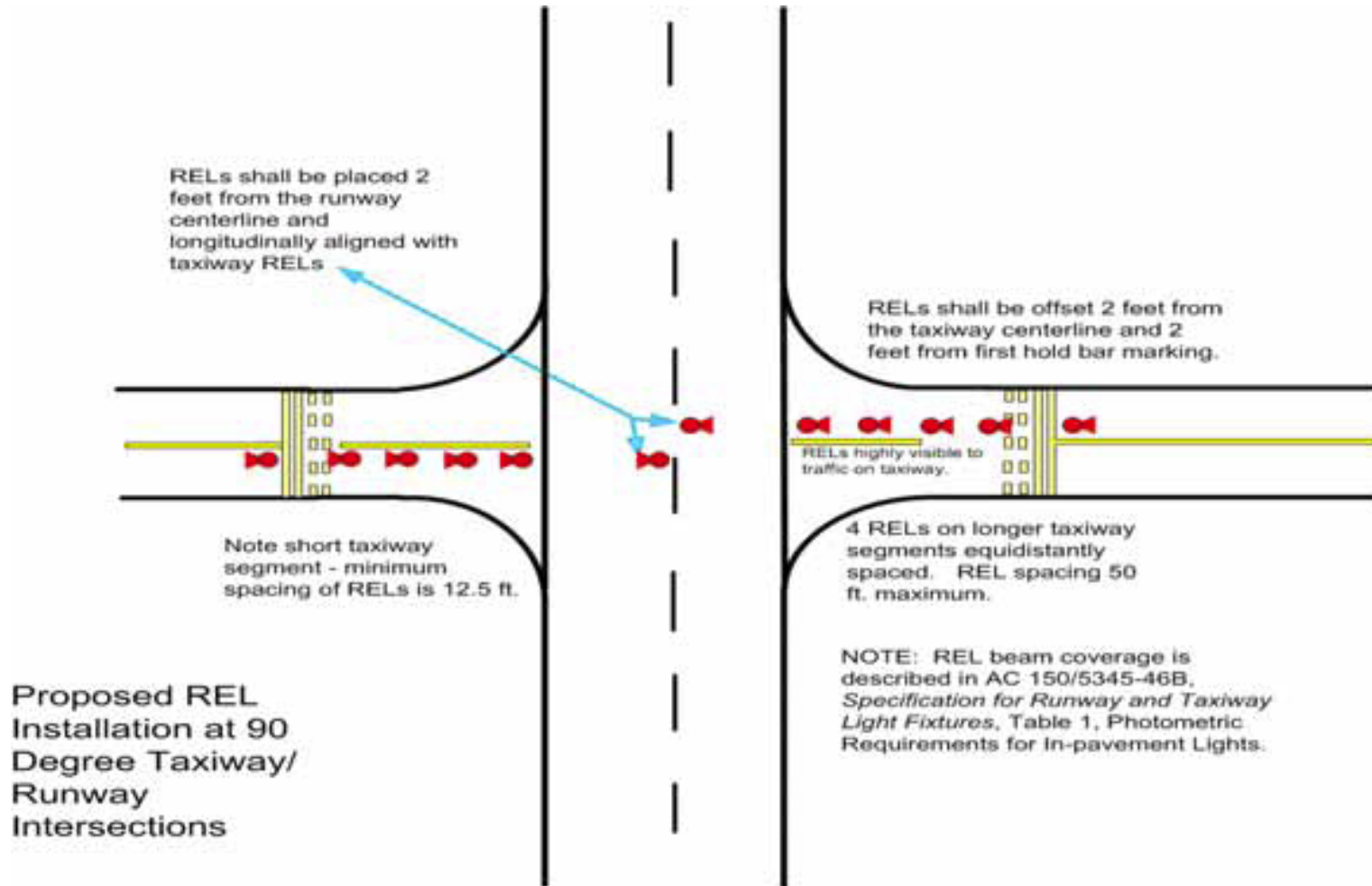
6 lights minimum per REL array  
(Includes one on Runway center line)



## Takeoff Hold Lights (THLs) L-850T

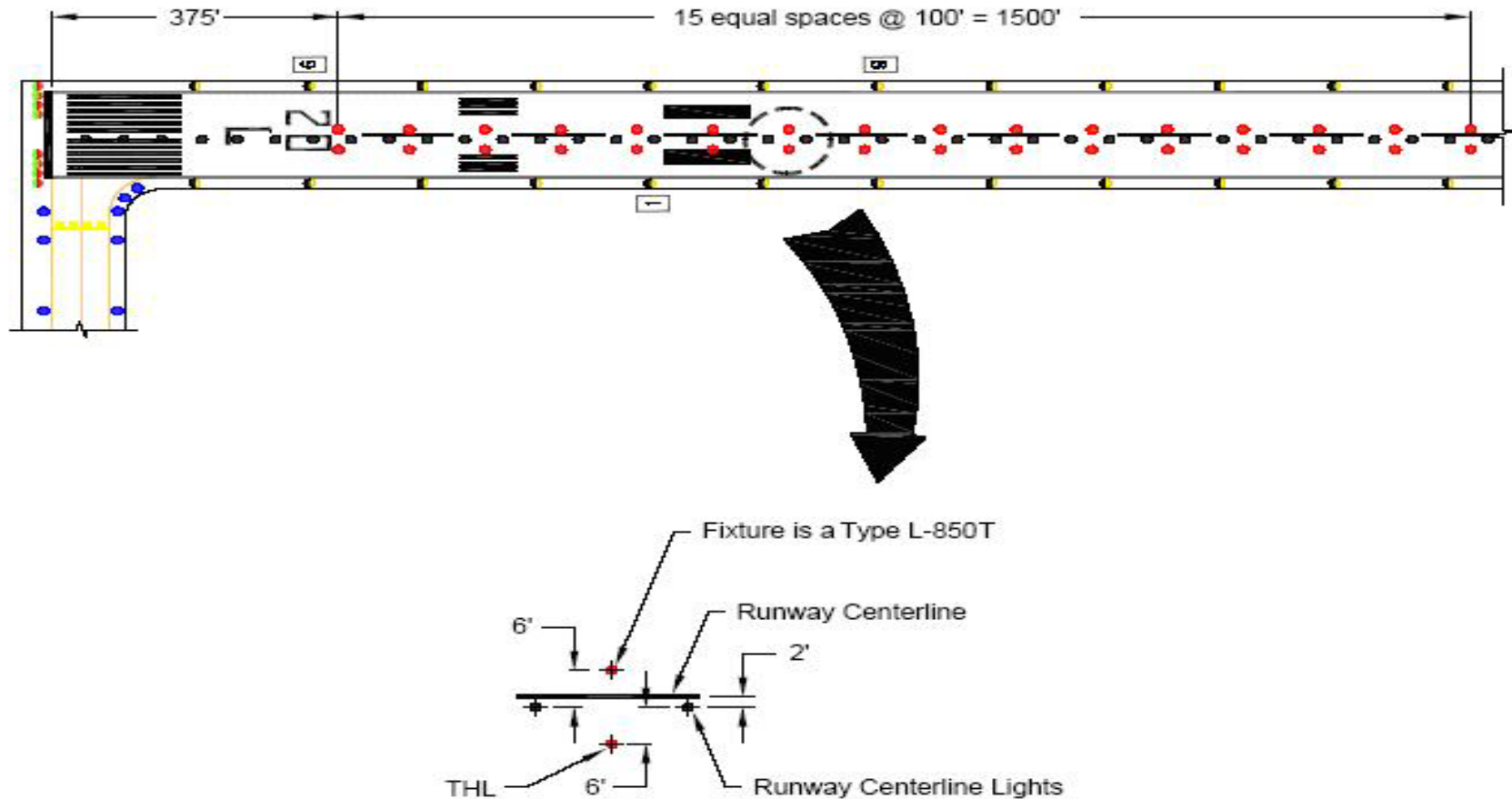
6' on either side of RW CL lights,  
spaced 100' for 1500' – 32 lights/array  
Start 375' from the runway threshold

# REL Array





# THL Array



Proposed Runway THL Locations

# Production RWSL System Hardware Overview

## Equipment Locations

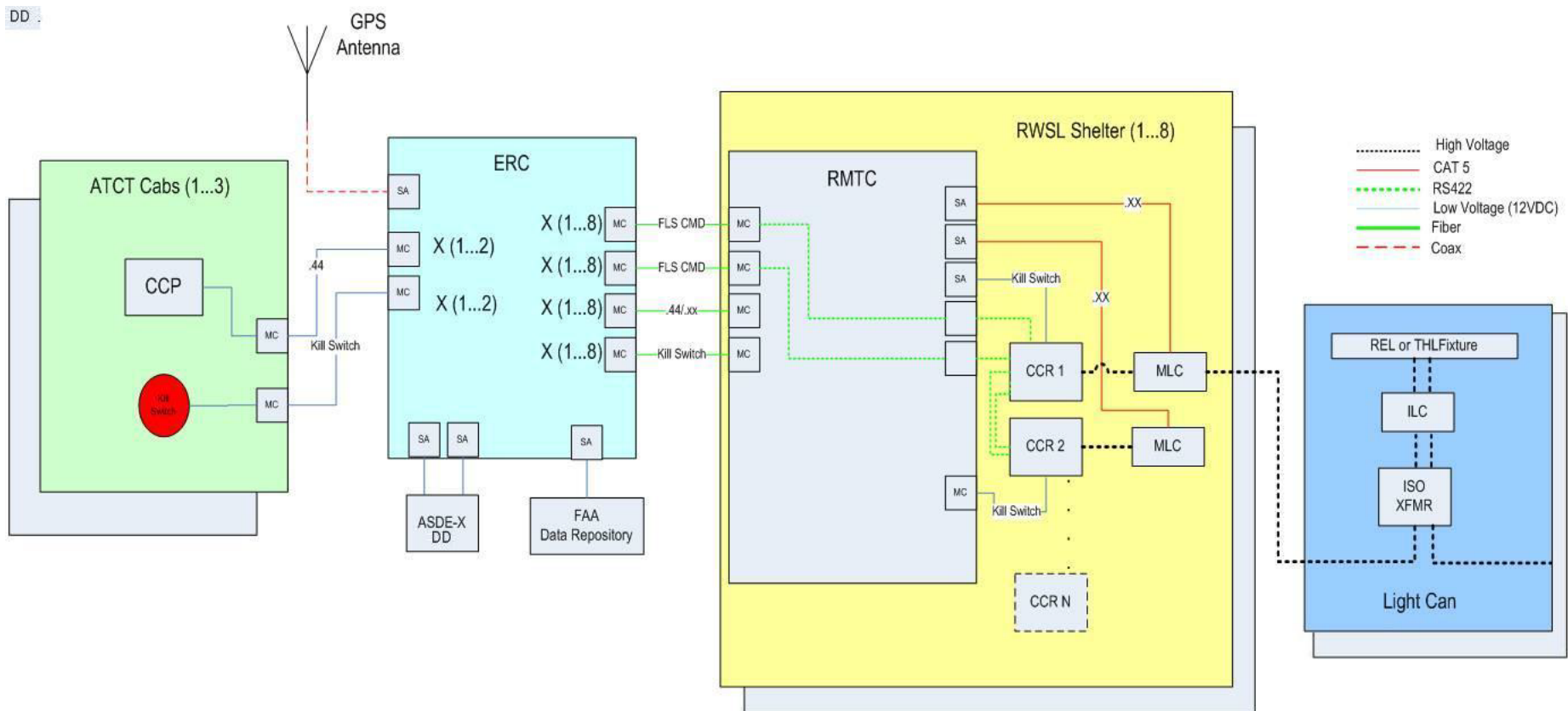
- Tower Cab
- Tower Equipment Room
- Airfield Shelter
- Field



# RWSL System Components

- Tower - Cab
  - Cab Control Panel
  - Kill Switch
- Tower - Equipment Room Cabinet (ERC)
  - RWSL Processor (RP)
  - Maintenance Terminal (MT)
  - Recorder
  - Field Light Computer
  - Time Server
  - Communications Equipment
- Lighting Shelter Equipment
  - Master Light Controllers
  - Constant Current Regulators
  - Remote Equipment Cabinet
    - Remote Maintenance Terminal
    - Communications Equipment
- Field Equipment
  - Light Fixtures (THL & REL)
  - Individual Light Controllers
  - Isolation Transformer
  - Light Can

# RWSL System Components



# Tower Cab: CPP Panel

- AT Supervisor Interface to RWSL System
- Allows control of intensity of RELs and THLs
- Provides system status
- One per ATCT



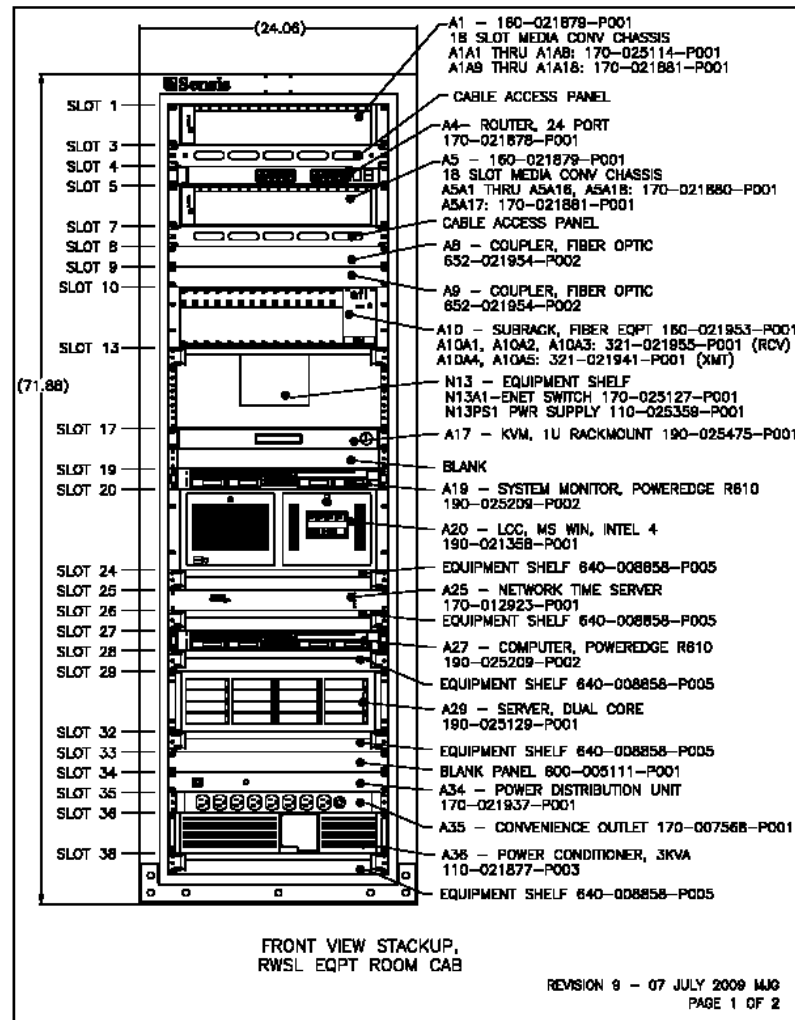
# Tower Cab: Kill Switch

- System shut down via direct control of CCRs
- One per ATCT





# Equipment Room Cabinet (ERC)



# ERC: RWSL Processor

- Receives surveillance data from the ASDE-X system
- Processes surveillance data to determine correct state of all RELs and THLs
- Sends light commands to the Lighting Computer



# ERC: Light Computer (LC)

- Receives light commands from RWSL processor
- Distributes light commands to all of the field lighting shelters



# ERC: Recorder

- Records all ASDE-X input data, light commands, and performance monitoring data
- Provides backup/restore functionality
- 15 Hard Drives, 1 extra bay





















# ERC: Maintenance Terminal

- Provides user interface to the RWSL Processor, Recorder and FLS
- Includes keyboard, monitor and touchpad



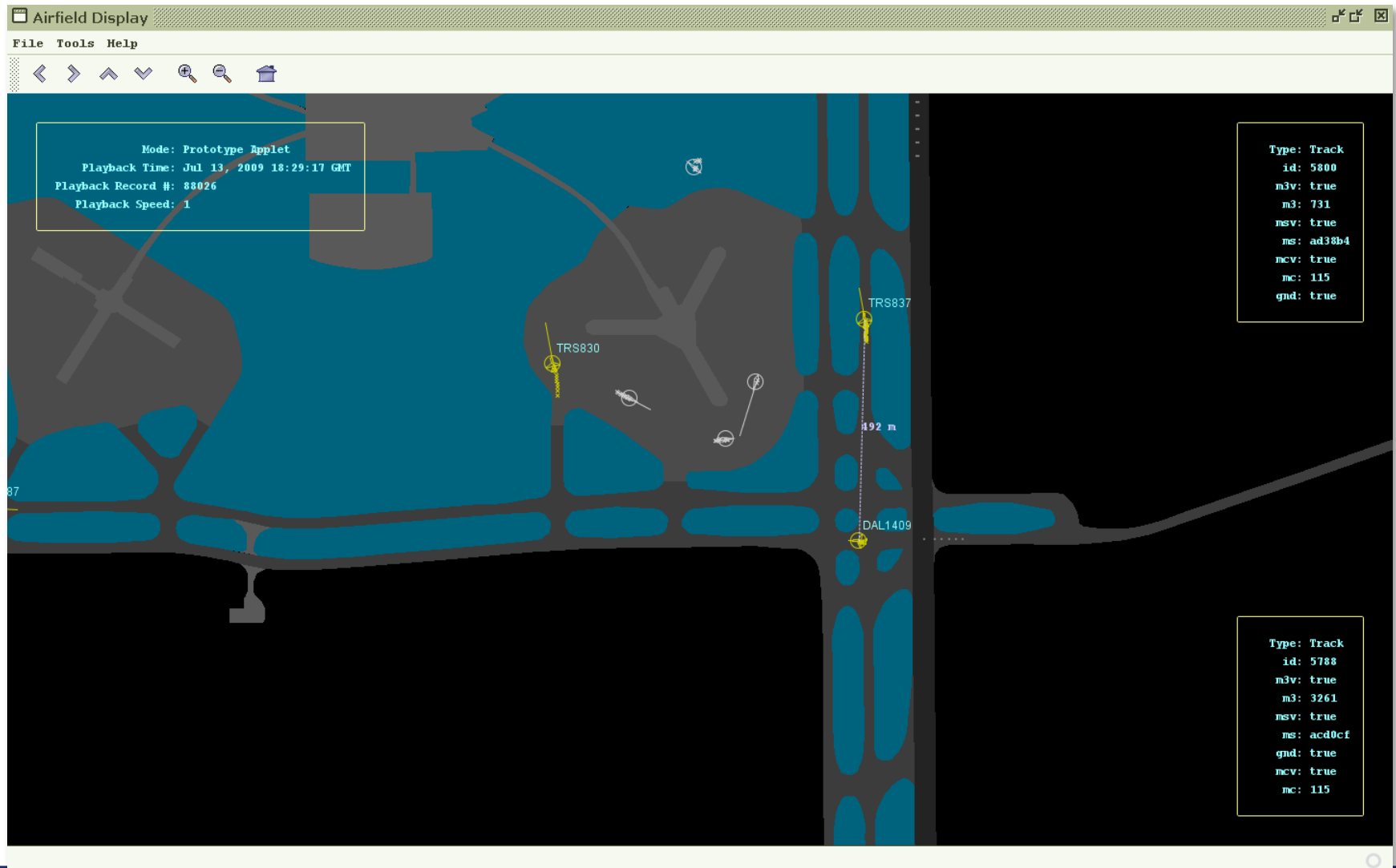
# ERC: Maintenance Terminal

## Runway Status Lights Maintenance Terminal

<b>Access</b> Log Off Modify Password	<b>ASDE-X System</b> ASDE-X:  Health  Interface to RWSL System	<b>Remote Maintenance</b> <u>Shelter - Runways 17/35</u>  Health <u>Shelter - Runways 18/36</u>  Health	<b>System State</b>  <b>ONLINE</b>
<b>Administration</b> Manage Users Test Integrity View Security Log	<b>Cab Control</b> <u>ATC Tower East</u>  Health <u>ATC Tower West</u>  Health	<b>Manual Shutdown System</b> <u>Manual Shutdown System</u>  Health	<b>Alerts</b>  Integrity Test Status: <b>PASSED</b>
<b>Optimization</b> Reprocess Data Manage Reprocessed Data Analyze Data	<b>Equipment Room Cabinet</b> <u>RWSL Processor</u>  Health  Interface to Lighting Computer	<b>Field Lighting</b> <b>Faults</b> <u>REL-36R 18L/E-East-6</u> 2009-03-23 12:07:00 <u>REL-36R 18L/E-West-3</u> 2009-03-21 21:47:02 <u>36R 18L THLs</u> 2009-03-18 06:42:34 <u>THL-35L-L16</u> 2009-03-17 15:32:55 <u>36L 18R THLs</u> 2009-03-13 08:00:05 <u>More...</u> (7) total	<b>Diagnostics</b>  <b>1 new message.</b> 2009-05-19 14:50:30 • Most Probable Failed LRU- Recorder HD8
<b>Maintenance</b> View Performance Control System Control Lighting View Airfield Display Playback Data Extract Data View Health Log View/Edit Adaptation About RWSL	<b>Lighting Computer</b>  Health  <u>Interface to Circuits</u>		<b>Faults</b>  2009-05-19 14:50:30 • Recorder status indicates HD8 failure
	<b>SysMon</b>  Health		
	<b>Recorder</b>  Health		
	<b>Power/ Communications</b>  Health		



# ERC: Maintenance Terminal



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# ERC: Time Server

- GPS Antenna provides GPS Signal to Time Server
- Provides time source to synchronize all computers in the RWSL system with the ASDE-X system



# ERC: Com and Support Equipment

- RWSL Router provides 24 Ethernet 10/100/1000 ports
- FLS router provides 8 Ethernet 10/100 ports
- Media Converter used to communicate with FLS
- Fiber Splitter
- Power Conditioner
- Convenience Outlets

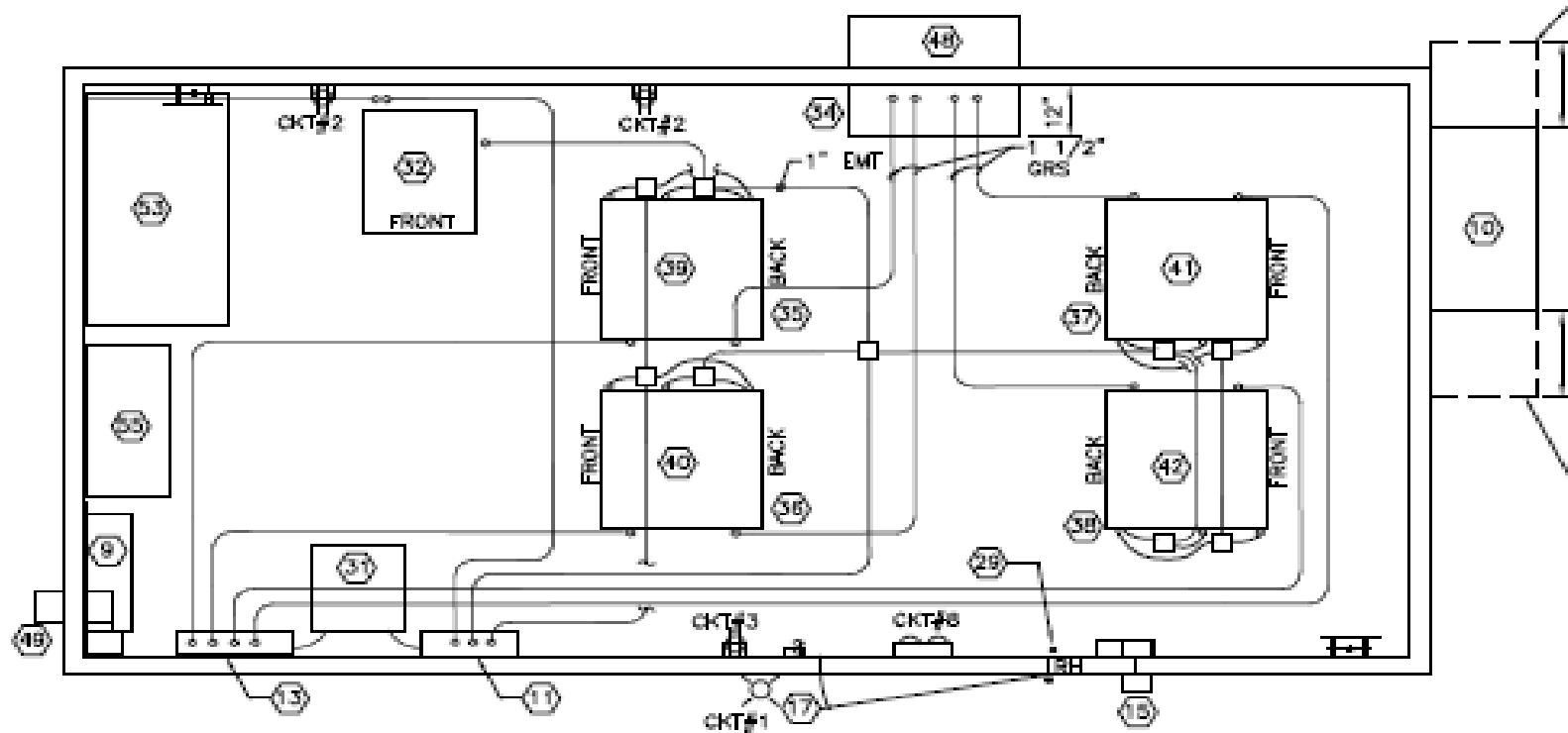


# Shelter



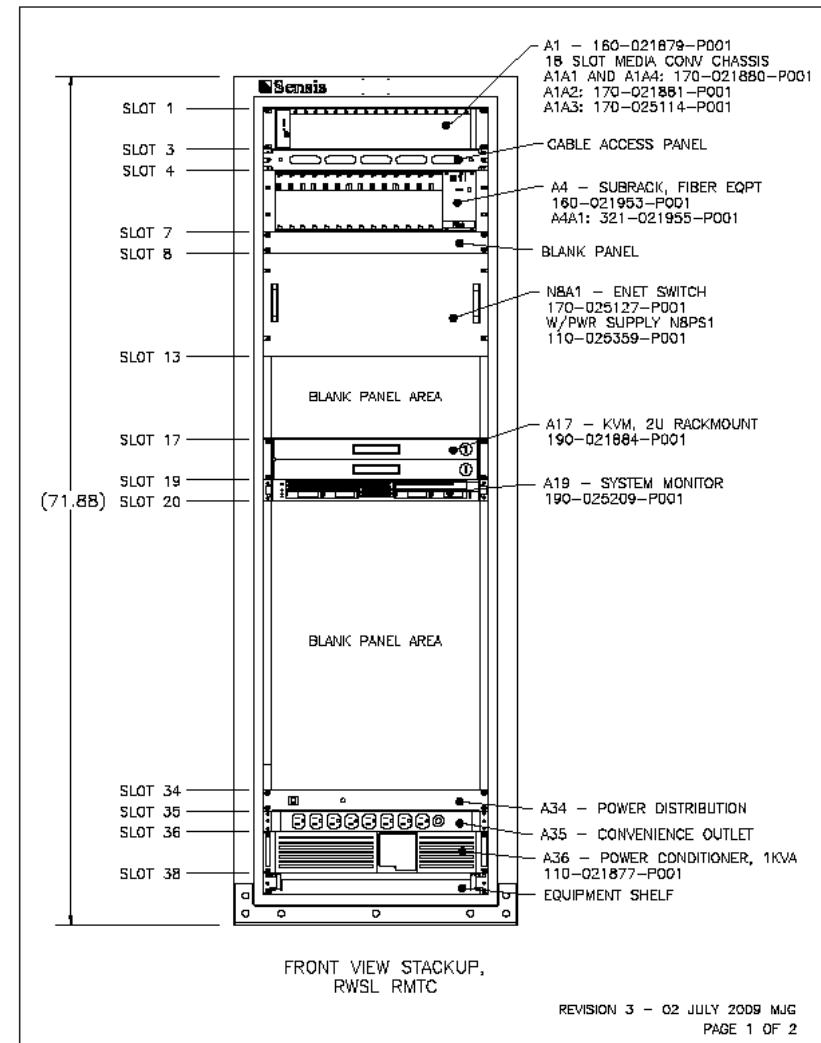
- Up to 8 Shelters per airport
- Size: 12' x 26'
- HVAC options, fan/vent, power options, plus others.
- 2100, Safety and Work/Egress Clearances

# Shelter



# Shelter: Remote Maintenance Cabinet

- Remote Maintenance Terminal
- Standard KVM
- Media Converters
- Fiber Equipment
- Power Distribution
- Power Conditioner





# Shelter: Constant Current Regulator

- Maintains a constant current level throughout one series circuit loop
- The current level is determined by the light intensity setting
- Includes ACE – Advanced Control Equipment (ACE)
- Up to 4 CCRs per Shelter



# Shelter: Master Light Controller (MLC)

- Power line carrier modem
- Receives light commands from the LC and sends communication signals to the individual light controllers
- Provides illuminate/extinguish control capability for the Individual Light Controllers on one circuit
- One MLC per CCR
- Rack mounted above CCR



# Shelter: Power and Comms

- Power
  - Disconnect Switch
  - 480V Input Panel
  - Utility Transformer
  - Distribution Panel
  - High Voltage Output Cabinet
  - Series Cut-out (SCO) Power output box
- Communications
  - Fiber Demarc - Corning LANscape P/N - WCH-04P
  - Kill Switch Relay
  - Cable Tray

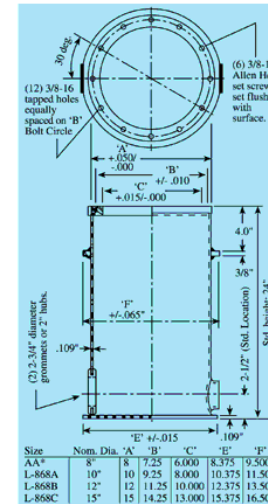
# Field: Light Fixtures

- THL fixtures conform to FAA AC 150/5345-46D Type L-850T
- REL fixtures conform to FAA AC 150/5345-46D Type L-852S

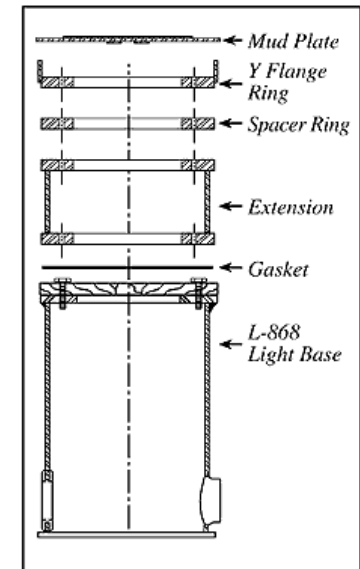


# Field: Light Can

- 12" diameter x 24" height
- Type L-868
- Hot-dip galvanized
- 1" drain
- 6 bolts
- Plate installed if fixture unavailable



L-868 Light Base



L-868 Installation Configuration

# Field: Individual Light Controller (ILC)

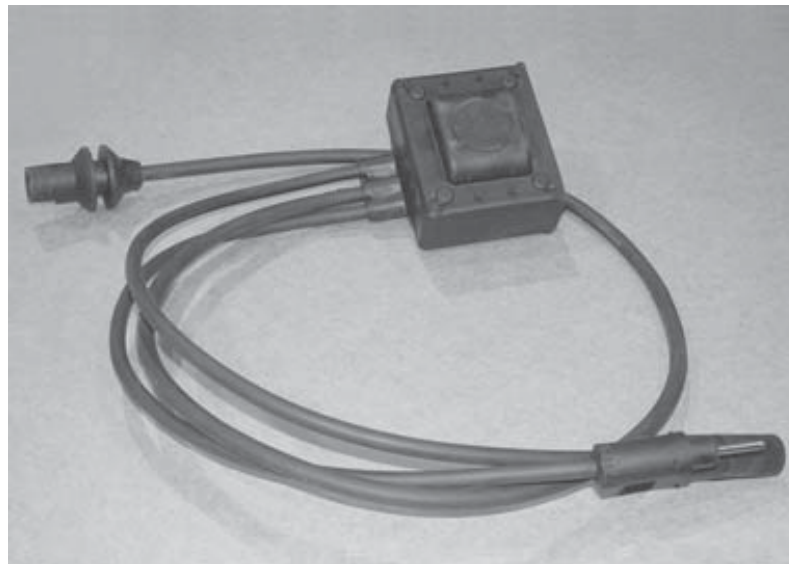
- Addressable, Low-Power, RF carrier-current modem located in each light can
- Receives the command signals sent from the MLC over the series circuit
- Illuminates and extinguishes the light fixture accordingly
- Monitors the diagnostics of the light fixture





# Field: Isolation Transformer

- Isolates the light fixture from the high voltage primary side of the series circuit



# Upgrade Equipment to Production RWSL System

## Equipment Locations

- Tower Cab
- Tower Equipment Room
- Airfield Shelter/Vault
- Field

## 3 Categories

- Remove/Replace prototype equipment
- More information required to determine if replacement is required
- Prototype equipment replaced by production equipment

# Tower Cab

- **Remove all prototype equipment**
- **Install**
  - Cab Control Panel
  - Kill Switch



# Tower Equipment Room

- **Remove all prototype equipment**
- **Install**
  - RWSL Equipment Room Cabinet (ERC)
- **Assess**
  - Is the existing fiber optic cable to each vault adequate or should it be replaced?

# Shelter/Vault

- **Remove all prototype equipment**
- **Install**
  - Remote Equipment Cabinet
  - Constant Current Regulators
  - Master Light Controllers
  - Supporting Electrical Equipment
- **Assess**
  - Should shelters be provided or are vaults adequate?
  - Do light circuits share conduit with any other field lighting equipment?

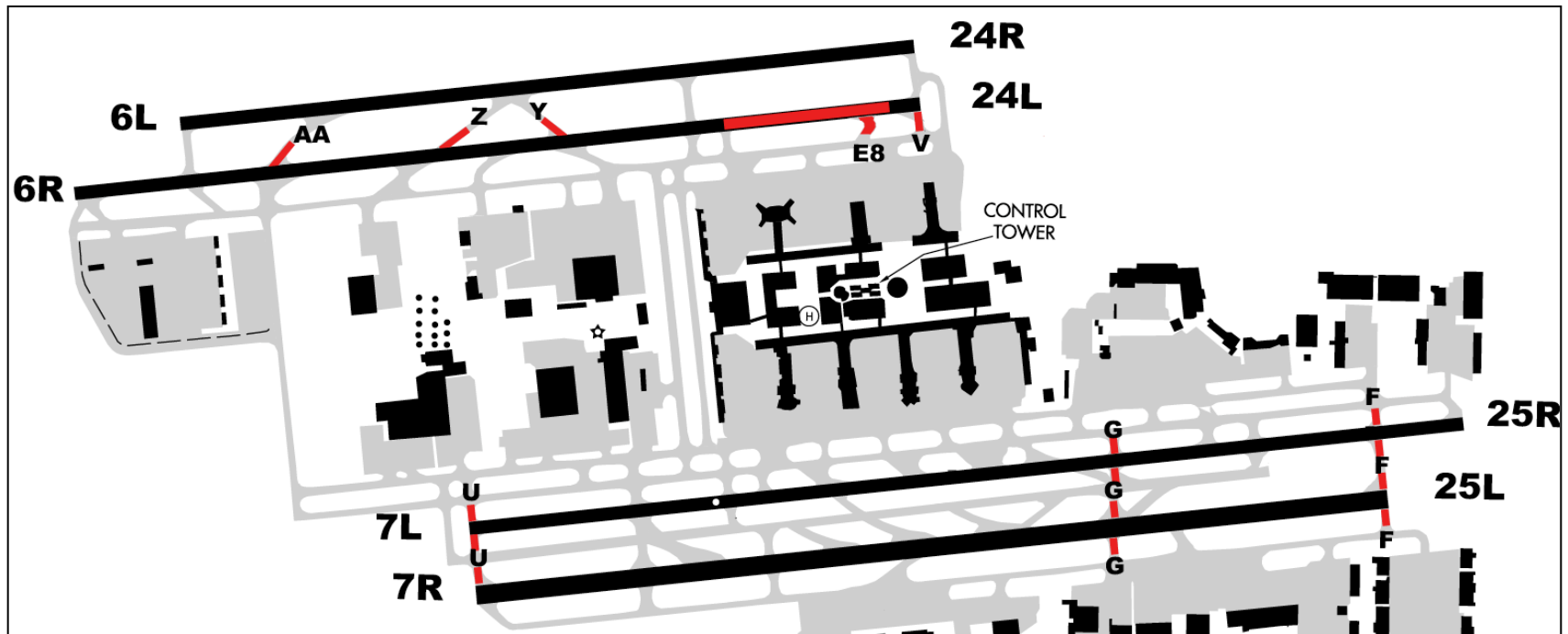
# Field

- **Retain**
  - Light cans
  - As much conduit as possible
- **Replace**
  - Individual Light Controllers
- **Assess**
  - Are transformers adequate?
  - If LEDs are to be used, fixtures and transformers will be replaced.
  - Is grounding adequate?

# REL and THL Locations

- **Aeronautical Charts**

- Are REL and THL Locations required on charts?



# Runway Status Lights System

# QUESTIONS ?

