

Lighting Research and Development Projects

Airport Technology Research (ATR) Branch (ANG-E26)

Presented to: IESALC

Ryan King April 19, 2022



Airport Safety Research Areas

- S1 Airport Planning and Design
- S2 Airport Safety Data Mining
- S3 Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting
- S4 Wildlife Hazard Abatement
- S5 Visual Guidance
- S6 Runway Surface Safety Technology
- S7 Airport Safety and Surveillance Sensors
- S8 Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration (transitioning to UAS/New Emergent)
- N1 Airport Noise
- E1 Airport Environmental



S5 – Visual Guidance

The information and science of ensuring safe, accurate movements in and around AOA using visual cues.

- Identification and elimination of deficiencies in existing airport lighting, signage, and surface painted markings that may cause confusion, lack conspicuity, or potentially contribute to a pilot or ground vehicle operator causing a runway incursion.
- New visual guidance concepts and technologies are researched and evaluated to improve the safety and efficiency of aircraft and ground vehicle operations.

Current Projects

- EMAS Signage Simulations ongoing
- Lighted X Evaluation of NIST Recommendations
- Closed Runway Conspicuity
- Solar Airport Lighting Systems Evaluation













Lighted X

- Lighted X Project reinitiated under new Visual Guidance Contract
- Research Request with purpose to evaluate the NIST recommendations on optimum size, (20ft vs 28ft) Intensity, and Lighting technology (LED vs Incandescent)
- Evaluations will be done for both daytime and nighttime operations
- Added Optimum flash rate to the research request(Aug 18 2021). Test cases are 2.5s on 2.5s off, 2.5s on 1s off, and 1s on 1s off
- In person meeting last week to discuss proposed changes to Task Plan(to be delivered by 5/25/22) and Test Plan (To be delivered by 6/8/22)
- Currently scouting locations for ground evaluations of Lighted X (preferably 1.5 Nautical miles out) to eliminate test cases that are not feasible to test during Flight Evaluations.



Solar Lighting for GA Airports



Penn Yan, NY

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Sola Lighting for GA Airports

- Prototype Installation at Cape May Airport in NJ completed
 - More than a year of data
- Installation of test array at Penn Yan Airport in NY completed
- Installation of test array at GA airport near Phoenix AZ in progress
 - Supply chain impacts/delays
- Test array comprises about 46 lighting fixtures fromtow different product lines i.e. Avlite and Carmannah
- Includes wind cones, ERGLs, Informational signs, obstruction lights, runway edge lights and taxiway lights
- Photometrics
- Battery autonomy
- Radio Control





Thank you