



ALERT: WINTER OPERATIONS AND HOT SPOTS

Hot spot: A location on an aerodrome movement area with a history or potential risk of collision or runway incursion, and where heightened attention by pilots/drivers is necessary.

Ref: ICAO Doc 9870, Manual on the Prevention of Runway Incursions

Concern

The current generation of aircraft has highly automated and complex systems that allow the preparation and programming of the total flight to be done on the ground.

This has resulted in flight deck workload peaks shifting to the ground phase of aircraft operations.

Many of the checklists and flight programming are done prior to taxi so that both crew members can be looking outside during ground operations. The taxi phase should be treated as a “critical phase of flight”.

This table shows runway incursions in Canada during winter operations for the past 5 years.

Runway incursions in Winter Season (November-March)

Year	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11
Count	115	139	144	116	124

Recommendation

Help reduce the risk of runway incursions.

- 1) Before you taxi or manoeuvre on the airfield, identify Hot Spots by locating them on the aerodrome diagram (Canadian Aerodrome Charts, Jeppesen charts, etc).

More information about each Hot Spot is provided on the Taxi Chart;

- 2) Extra vigilance is required whenever approaching an identified "Hot Spot" or crossing a runway.