



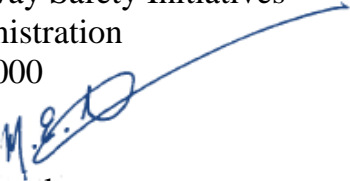
Memorandum

**U.S. Department of
Transportation**

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation
Office of Inspector General

Subject: **INFORMATION**: Audit Announcement –
Review of FAA’s Runway Safety Initiatives
Federal Aviation Administration
Project No. 16A3005A000

Date: December 8, 2016

From: Matthew Hampton 
Assistant Inspector General
for Aviation Audits

Reply to
Attn. of: JA-10

To: Director, Audit and Evaluation

Runway incursions—incidents involving unauthorized aircraft, vehicles, or people on a runway—are increasing at an alarming rate. Between fiscal years 2011 and 2015, the total number of runway incursions increased by nearly 53 percent, from 954 to 1,456 incidents, with the rate of more serious incidents increasing by 114 percent over the same time period. As a result of this increase, in 2015 the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) initiated a Call to Action forum that focused on developing short-, medium-, and long-term initiatives for addressing the increase in runway incursions.

Over the years, our office has issued several reports detailing FAA’s efforts to address runway safety. For example, in 2014 we reported that FAA has made progress implementing initiatives to reduce runway incursions.¹ However, some of the mid-term and long-term initiatives were delayed or cancelled altogether, particularly at large, congested airports. Due to the increase in the number of runway incursions, we are initiating a review of FAA’s runway safety efforts. The objective of our audit is to evaluate FAA’s progress in implementing initiatives to improve runway safety.

We plan to begin the audit work next month and will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. We will conduct our work at FAA Headquarters and

¹ *Management Limitations May Hinder FAA’s Ability To Fully Implement and Assess the Effectiveness of Its Runway Safety Initiatives* (OIG Report No. AV-2014-130), September 25, 2014. OIG reports are available on our Web site at <http://www.oig.dot.gov/>.

other sites as needed. If you have any questions, please contact me at 202-366-0500.

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cc: FAA Audit Liaison, AAE-100
DOT Audit Liaison, M-1