

# Safety Bulletin

06 AUGUST 2013

## Compliance with Runway Stop Bars

Runway Stop Bars have been installed at Melbourne and Sydney Airports to provide protection at runway/taxiway intersections. **However, there continue to be occurrences where pilots cross an illuminated stop bar, resulting in a runway incursion.**

Stop Bars reduce the risk of runway incursions through:

- Enhanced visibility of Runway Hold Points
- Reinforcing the control of aircraft and vehicles in the vicinity of Hold Points
- Minimising the risk of aircraft or vehicle identification error
- Enhancing safety during low visibility operations.

Stop Bars are a series of unidirectional lights at right angles to the taxiway centreline. The lights are complemented by existing yellow Runway Guard Lights, MAG Signs and Pattern A Runway Holding Point markings. Stop Bars show red in the direction of approach to the runway. Stop Bars are in operation 24 hours, seven days a week and are controlled by Air Traffic Control (ATC). When the stop bar is extinguished, a set of green 'lead on' lights will illuminate. Lead on lights run from the Runway Holding Point to a point in line with the Runway edge line.

Pilots are required to stop at the Runway Holding Point and obtain a clearance from ATC prior to entering a runway. In addition to the clearance from ATC, the stop bar lights **must** be extinguished prior to the aircraft proceeding past the holding point.

**Pilots must not cross a Runway Holding Point until they have received verbal clearance from ATC AND the Stop Bar has been extinguished.**

If you have been issued an instruction to proceed and the stop bar has not been switched off:

- DO NOT cross the illuminated stop bar **AND**
- Immediately query the instruction with ATC.

### For more information

Airservices has produced an information sheet and a presentation on Stop Bars available on the Airservices website:

[www.airservicesaustralia.com/wp-content/uploads/runway\\_stopbars\\_presentation.pdf](http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/wp-content/uploads/runway_stopbars_presentation.pdf)

[www.airservicesaustralia.com/wp-content/uploads/runway\\_stop\\_bars\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/wp-content/uploads/runway_stop_bars_fact_sheet.pdf)

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