

10/28/2022

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

2022-109/5-43

To: Airport Manager, Los Angeles Int'l Airport (LAX), CA, Portland Int'l Airport (PDX), OR, Seattle-Tacoma Int'l Airport (SEA), WA, FAA (AAS-1)

1934669

Info: FAA (AFS-200, AVP-1, AVP-200, AAS-300, AJV-A, AWP-600, AFS-260, AFS-400, AJI-144, Director of Air Traffic Operations WSA, Runway Safety Team), ATSG, AFA, ALPA, IFALPA, APA, APFA, ASAP, A4A, IATA, CAPA, ICAO, ICASS, IPA, NTSB, RAA, SWAPA

From: Becky L. Hooey, Director
NASA Aviation Safety Reporting System

Re: Overly Bright LED Ramp Lighting at Multiple Airports

We recently received ASRS reports describing a safety concern that may involve your area of operational responsibility. We do not have sufficient details to assess either the factual accuracy or possible gravity of the report. It is our policy to relay the reported information to the appropriate authority for evaluation and any necessary follow-up. We feel you should be aware of the enclosed deidentified report.

To properly assess the usefulness of our alert message service, we would appreciate it if you would take the time to give us your feedback on the value of the information that we have provided. Please contact Dr. Becky Hooey at (408) 541-2854 or email at becky.l.hooey@nasa.gov.



Aviation Safety Reporting System
P.O. Box 189 | Moffett Field, CA | 94035-0189



ACN 1934669

DATE / TIME

Date of Occurrence	202209
Local Time Of Day	0601 to 1200

PLACE

Locale	LAX.Airport
State	CA

AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT X

ATC / Advisory - Ground	LAX
Make Model Name	Large Transport, Low Wing, 2 Turbojet Eng
Operating Under FAR Part	121

PERSON 1

Function - Flight Crew	Captain
ASRS Report Number	1934669

EVENTS

Anomaly	Ground Event / Encounter - Ground Equipment Issue
Detector - Person	Flight Crew
Result - Flight Crew	Overcame Equipment Problem

NARRATIVE 1

This report is filed to bring attention to the highest levels. I have used LAX as a baseline but my concern is not inclusive of LAX as every airport facility using the new LED lights to illuminate the ramp areas is culpable. The LED lights recently installed at LAX, PDX, SEA, and many other airport facilities are too bright. When I taxi in from relatively dark taxiways and am subjected to bright white lights shining directly into my eyes it causes a temporary loss of full visual functionality. To the point that it is difficult to retain focus on the marshaller and the lit wands during the most critical phase of taxi, pulling up to the jet bridge and terminal building. Please consider reverting to amber, or other, colored LED lights instead of white LED lights as they are less impactful on nighttime visual acuity of the human eye. Additionally, please consider any other mitigation factors available from an engineering/design perspective (i.e. changing the height, angle, or position of the lights) that might enhance the safety of flight operations at night.

SYNOPSIS

Air carrier Captain reported LED bright white lighting used in ramp areas of several airport facilities may cause temporary vision issues.