

9/11/2023

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

2023-136/5-45

2023217

To: Airport Manager, San Diego Int'l Airport (SAN), CA, FAA (AAS-1)

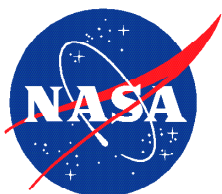
Info: FAA (AAS-300, AVP-1, AVP-200, AJI-144, AWP-600, AFS-260, AFS-200, Director of Air Traffic Operations WSA), A4A, AAAE, ALPA, AOPA, APA, ASAP, CAPA, ATSAP, ATSG, IATA, IBT, ICAO, ICASS, IFALPA, IPA, NATCA, NBAA, NTSB, RAA, SWAPA

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

Re: SAN Airport Runway 27 Rubber Build-up

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 2023217

DATE / TIME

Date of Occurrence	202308
Local Time Of Day	1801 to 2400

PLACE

Locale	SAN.Airport
State	CA
Altitude - AGL	0

AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT X

ATC / Advisory - Tower	SAN
Make Model Name	Commercial Fixed Wing
Operating Under FAR Part	121

PERSON 1

Function - Flight Crew	Captain
Function - Flight Crew	Pilot Flying
ASRS Report Number	2023217

EVENTS

Anomaly	Deviation / Discrepancy - Procedural - Published Material / Policy
Anomaly	Ground Event / Encounter - Other / Unknown
Detector - Person	Flight Crew

NARRATIVE 1

The touchdown zone for Runway 27 has a lot of rubber built up. When the sun sets, it reflects off the rubber and creates a bright light almost as bright as the setting sun. It is impossible to block both the setting sun and the touchdown zone's bright light at the same time. The reflected light from the touchdown zone continues in the flare and is very disorienting. I had a hard time telling how high I was off the runway.

Clean the rubber off from the touchdown zone on a more regular basis. Rubber build-up in touchdown zone reflects setting sun and is disorienting.

SYNOPSIS

Air carrier Captain reported excessive rubber build-up in the SAN Runway 27 touchdown zone created a reflective surface that was very disorienting and made it difficult in determining how high the aircraft was off the runway. The Captain recommended the airport remove the excess rubber build-up on a more regular basis to mitigate this hazard.