

4/25/2024

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

2024-80/4-8

2091521

To: Airport Manager, Raleigh-Durham Intl, (RDU), NC, FAA (AAS-1)

Info: FAA (AAS-300, ASO-600, AFS-260, AFS-200, AJI-144, AVP-1, AVP-200, Director of Air Traffic Operations, ESA South, Runway Safety Team), A4A, AAAE, ALPA, APA, ASAP, ATSAP, ATSG, CAPA, IATA, ICAO, ICASS, IFALPA, IPA, NATCA, NTSB, RAA, SWAPA

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

Re: RDU Ramp Lighting Concerns

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 2091521

DATE / TIME

Date of Occurrence	202403
Local Time Of Day	1801 to 2400

PLACE

Locale	RDU.Airport
State	NC
Altitude - AGL	0

ENVIRONMENT

Weather	Rain
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AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT X

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

PERSON 1

Function - Flight Crew	Captain
Function - Flight Crew	Pilot Not Flying
ASRS Report Number	2091521

EVENTS

Anomaly	Ground Event / Encounter - Ground Equipment Issue
Anomaly	Ground Event / Encounter - Weather / Turbulence
Detector - Person	Flight Crew
Result - General	None Reported / Taken

NARRATIVE 1

The lights that illuminate the sidewalk behind the gates in RDU make it nearly impossible to see ramp markings or anything else while approaching the gate area at night in the rain. Luckily the Marshaller must have known this because he stood on the yellow lead in line and emphatically and consistently motioned with his lighted wands to where the lead in line was until we were about 10ft from the stopping point. Poor design in ramp lighting.

Suggestion: Some sort of cover on the lights that allows the lights to shine down on the sidewalk, but not straight out to approaching aircraft.

SYNOPSIS

Air carrier Captain reported the sidewalk lights behind the gates at RDU are so bright it makes it difficult to see the gate lead-in lights.