

Harmonization of Concepts in Runway Safety

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Concepts in runway safety

- Runway incursions

“Any occurrence at an aerodrome involving the incorrect presence of an aircraft, vehicle or person on the protected area of a surface designated for the landing and take off of aircraft”.

- Runway excursions

An aircraft on the runway surface departs the end or the side of the runway surface.

- Runway confusion

There may not be any definition.



Confusion in concepts

Runway incursions ? Runway confusion? or runway excursions? Please consider the following case:

- An aircraft lines up and makes a takeoff rolling on a shorter runway rather than the runway assigned by the tower controller and results in an overrun.



What leads concept confusions?

Definitions and concepts are from deferent perspectives

- Runway incursions— from a perspective of operation
- Runway excursions – from a perspective of outcomes of certain operation
- Runway confusions – from either a perspective of operation or outcomes of certain operation



Why to clarify and harmonize the concepts?

- Confusions in runway safety concepts cause disorder and confusion in safety information management regarding runway safety.
- It also causes disorder in measures taken to address runway safety issues.



Suggestions for harmonization of concepts

- Runway excursions should be treated at a level of flight safety issues rather than a runway safety problem.
- Any misidentification of any runway from the air or landing on the runway which is not assigned by the controller should be considered as runway confusion.
- Any misidentification and entering mistakenly of any runway on the ground should be treated as runway incursions but not runway confusion.

