



EUROPEAN AVIATION SAFETY AGENCY
AGENCE EUROPÉENNE DE LA SÉCURITÉ AÉRIENNE
EUROPÄISCHE AGENTUR FÜR FLUGSICHERHEIT

Winter Operations

—

A Safety Perspective

Airports and Airlines Winter Operations
Forum

10 October 2011

Your safety is our mission.



A Safety Perspective

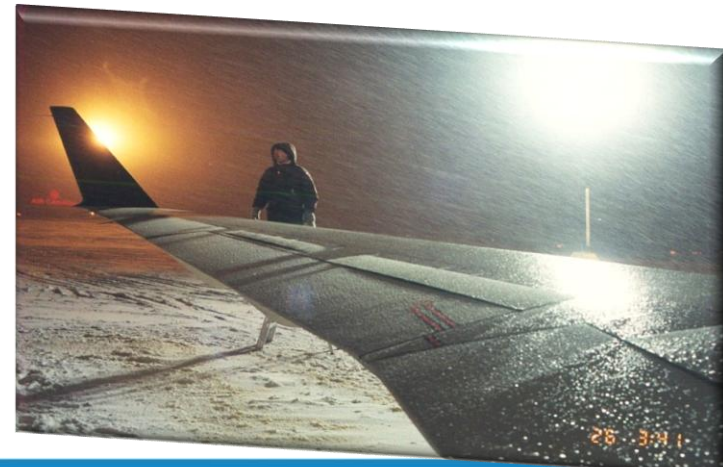
**While there will be some room
for tolerance of traffic
disruption under extreme
weather circumstances**

—

**There shall be no such room
for aviation safety!**

Context and air transport safety facts:

- **Historic weather records**
- **All modes of transport significantly affected**
- **Vast majority of flights executed as planned**
- **Airport Airside and Landside factors involved**
- **Some – yet significant – consequences of disruption come without relevance to safety**





Analysis:

- **Operation at outer edge of capabilities might induce detrimental safety effects**
- **However, no safety issues emerged from 2010/2011 winter crisis days !**

- **In general, winter operations comes with inherent challenges, such as:**
 - **Adverse weather**
 - **De-, Anti-Icing**
 - **Reduced visibility**
 - **Runway conditions**
 - **Ground vehicles**
 - **...**





Who is involved:

- Airports
- Air operators
- Ground Handling Providers
- ATM, ANS, MET
- Slot coordination
- Safety regulators



**Only an orchestrated, continuous effort
of all players will ensure unimpaired
level of safety**

Considerations for further improvements:

- **Complete and harmonise approach for safety regulation across Europe**
 - **OPS, ATM, ANS, Airports: On-going**
 - **Ground Handling: To be advanced?**
Regulated directly?

- **Realisation of SMS mechanisms**

- **Research and Scientific progress**
 - **Runway friction**
 - **De-Icing**



Conclusions:

- ▶ **Industry has shown to cope with days of crisis without safety implications**
- ▶ **Evidence: Safety paramount to industry**
- ▶ **Per se, winter operation can present a challenge to safety**
- ▶ **EASA is ready to assist in further scientific and regulatory development**
- ▶ **Focus:**
 - **Runway friction**
 - **De-Icing**
 - **Ground Handling**





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**Thank you
for
your attention!**

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