

Apron Safety **HANDBOOK**

First Edition 2015





APRON SAFETY HANDBOOK

First Edition 2015

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FOREWORD



ACI is proud to present the new Apron Safety Handbook, which is updated and expanded from Chapter 2 of the Airside Safety Handbook (4th edition). We have decided to divide the Airside Safety Handbook into separate Handbooks: Runway Safety (published in 2014), SMS (in development) and Apron Safety.

Aprons are often the most congested and busiest areas of an airport. They are home to demanding and complex activities that are carried out under severe space and time constraints. The new handbook remains short and succinct, and provides best practices for planning and design of apron layouts and facilities, standard operational practices for safe apron operations, and mitigation and prevention measures for maintenance and construction activities on aprons.

The subject is clearly of great importance to aerodrome operators, who want to avoid or mitigate all foreseeable risks of accidents occurring. These issues have been discussed many times at ACI conferences and committee meetings, and ACI therefore feels that it has the responsibility to put forward a best practice guide to assist its members.

ACI would like to thank all the Safety & Technical Standing Committee members who have contributed to developing the handbook.

I would remind you that, in the area of staff development, ACI's Global Training offers a range of courses relevant to apron safety, available both in the classroom and online.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angela Gittens', written in a cursive style.

Angela Gittens
Director General
ACI World

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INTRODUCTION

With the growth of air traffic, apron operations have become increasingly complex. More and larger aircraft, changes in ground support equipment and faster turnaround times all contribute to the challenge of improving apron safety.

No single document provides consistent and thorough guidance on apron safety, although various bodies have produced guidance covering different aspects of apron safety, according to the views and tasks of different stakeholders.

This handbook is intended to complement such material by offering additional guidance which brings together the best elements of managing apron safety from current experience of those involved in this important task at airport operators around the world.

It provides aerodrome operators with a comprehensive set of guidelines to enhance safety, to improve operations and to prevent or reduce accidents, incidents and occurrences on the apron:

- Apron Safety describes how to establish a programme that covers all the major aspects of apron safety, including workplace health and safety, and how to promote safety culture among multiple stakeholders;
- Apron Planning and Design explains considerations for various apron types, guidance on apron layout, requirements for apron facilities and other apron safety best practices for planning and design;
- Apron Operations provides day-to-day apron operations procedures and requirements; and
- Apron Maintenance and Construction gives ideas and recommendations in regard to construction in the apron area and to maintenance of apron infrastructure.

This handbook is derived from the [ACI Airside Safety Handbook \(4th edition, 2010\)](#), which is being divided into the [Runway Safety Handbook](#), the [Apron Safety Handbook](#) and the [SMS Handbook](#). Its scope is more specific and detailed than the [Airside Safety Handbook](#), and it complements the new [Runway Safety Handbook](#) and [SMS Handbook](#).

