

Alice Springs Airport

SPILL MANAGEMENT

PREVENTING STORMWATER
POLLUTION



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STORMWATER POLLUTION

INTRODUCTION

For the purpose of this handbook, the airport environment includes all land leased from the Commonwealth government by Alice Springs Airport (ASA) which could potentially be impacted by airport equipment and operations including construction equipment and public vehicles.

This handbook contains information on what stormwater and a spill is; whether the spill is major or minor; what to do when a spill occurs; how to minimise the impact and prevent the spill happening in the future.

The handbook should be read in conjunction with your company's own spill response procedures. Encourage others in your company to read this handbook and be familiar with its contents.

Copies of this handbook are available on the NT Airports website www.ntairports.com.au/environment.

Water is a valuable resource and our use of water for drinking, farming and recreation can be threatened by discharge of contaminants.

The airport environment has large areas of hard surfaces such as parking areas, runways, taxiways and aprons where there is the potential for liquid spills and leaks of oil, fuel, effluent and other chemicals.

If these spills are not contained and cleaned up, then contaminants can pose a significant risk to groundwater and can flow into the stormwater drains.

Liquid spills at the airport are not only harmful to the environment, but can also pose a serious risk to the safety of people and property and damage pavement.

Alice Springs Airport (ASA) has prepared this handbook on spill response procedures for airport workers who use, handle, store or transport substances that could contaminate the airport environment.

WHAT IS STORMWATER?

The stormwater system is designed to prevent flooding by collecting rainwater from roofs and paved areas of ground.

On its way to the gutter and the stormwater drain outside your hangar, apron or building this rainwater picks up pollutants and contaminants including litter, cigarette butts, animal excrement, dust, plant materials, petrol, oil, lead and other metals or materials left behind on aprons, car parks and roads.

The water then travels through a system of underground pipes and open drains and is released directly and untreated into the airport drainage system. So whatever enters that drain outside your hangar, apron or building – whether it's poured in intentionally or washed down with rainwater – enters our airport drains in virtually the same untreated condition.

THE LAW AND WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU AT ALICE SPRINGS AIRPORT

The Airports Act 1996 makes it an offence for a person to directly or indirectly cause environmental pollution on an airport; significant penalties apply. The Airports (Environment Protection) Regulations 1997 require operators on airports to take all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent pollution and, if prevention is not possible, to minimise pollution.

The Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act and Regulations apply to the management of Hazardous Materials (i.e. fuels, oils, solvents and other chemicals) and require people using and storing these products to make provision for:

- » containment of spills and
- » response to, and clean-up of, spills that occur

Operators at Alice Springs Airport must therefore:

- » so far as is reasonably practicable, that where there is a risk of a hazardous chemical spill or leak, provision is made for a spill containment system that contains the spill or leak, and any resulting effluent
- » the spill containment system does not create a hazard by bringing together different hazardous chemicals that are not compatible
- » the spill containment system provides for the clean-up and disposal of a hazardous chemical that spills or leaks, and any resulting effluent
- » so far as is reasonably practicable, that containers of hazardous chemicals and any associated pipe work or attachments are protected against damage caused by an impact or excessive loads



SPILL RESPONSE

WHAT IS A SPILL?

It is the spillage of any substance that is likely to contaminate stormwater or natural ground.

Substances may include, but are not restricted to:

- » oils and fuels
- » toxic metals
- » chemicals (detergents)
- » sediment (earthworks)
- » organic wastes (domestic sewage and plant and animal products)

A minor spill – covers less than 2m² and can be contained and cleared up by the person who created the spill without the assistance of ASA Operations.

If you find a minor spill and did not create it, ASA expects you to report the spill immediately to ASA Aerodrome Reporting Officer on 0402 088 154 or 8951 1211.

The person who creates or finds a minor spill is expected to direct others away from the spill.

A major spill – is any spill which is greater than 2m². A major spill should be reported immediately to the ASA Aerodrome Reporting Officer on 0402 088 154 or 8951 1211.

REMEMBER SAFETY COMES FIRST

Call the Aerodrome Reporting Officer (0402 088 154) immediately if you can't contain the spill, don't know what has been spilt, the spill material has entered a stormwater drain or if the material spilt is toxic.

Use appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when managing spilt material and let experts deal with toxic materials.

SPILL RESPONSE PROCEDURES

All operators at Alice Springs Airport must take the following action in the event of a spill:

- » Ensure the safety of people – Move people, and equipment if it is safe to do so, from the immediate vicinity of the spill.
- » Assess the spill – Establish whether you have the right equipment, and sufficient quantities of it, to deal with the material spilt.
- » Assess the location – Establish whether there are any drains nearby that need protection and determine whether any material has entered the drains.
- » Control the spill – Stop the spill from spreading by placing absorbent material in a down-slope position and by blocking stormwater inlets.
- » Clean up the spill – Apply absorbent material, sweep up residue and place it in a container for disposal. If soil has been contaminated, dig up the affected soil and place it in a container for disposal.
- » Dispose of contaminated spill response material or soil to an appropriately licensed waste facility. Retain a copy of the waste disposal certificates for your records.

REGULAR PUBLIC TRANSPORT APRON SPILL PROCEDURE

The Regular Public Transport (RPT) Apron accommodates the aircraft that use the main terminal building for passenger and cargo transport.

Controlling a spill

If possible, position yourself upwind of the spill. Ignition sources must be turned off as soon as possible, especially if you don't know the nature of the spill. Move away from the fuel source before switching any ignition sources off.

Examples of ignition sources are:

- » cigarette lighters
- » portable radios
- » mobile phone/pager
- » camera flashes
- » safety matches
- » motor vehicles

If it is safe to do so, turn leaking valves and pumps off to stop further leakage. **Emergency fuel stop buttons** (located on Bays 3 and 6) are available to stop uncontrolled aircraft refuelling operations. Should they be required an emergency shower and eyewash station are available on Bay 5.

Containing the spill – Minor Spill

Absorbent materials absorb liquid spills to prevent or minimise the amount of spill entering stormwater drains, reduce pavement damage and to provide a safer working environment. Absorbent materials may include absorbent socks, booms, bunds and mats.

Emergency spill kits are available on the RPT apron.

Airport users should have their own emergency spill kits for cleaning up minor spills. Gear that should be contained in a spill kit is listed on page 8.

Containing the spill – Major Spill

Contact ARFF Service and ASA Operations immediately.

Sewage Spill

Major sewage spills should not be handled due to health reasons. These spills are to reported immediately to the ASA Operations who in turn arranges ASA Groundstaff who manage this issue.

Cleaning up a spill

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is to be worn when handling sewage, fuel, oil and hazardous substances. PPE includes gloves, goggles and disposable coveralls are

available in the spill kits. All airport staff shall also comply with the airport minimal PPE requirements and their company's PPE Policy and/or procedures.

Uses absorbent material to contain the spill to prevent or minimise the amount of spill that will damage pavement, create a safety hazard or pollute stormwater drains.

Airport Groundstaff, via Airport Operations, must be called to clean the ground surface after the absorbent materials have absorbed most of the spill if the pavement is slippery.

Disposal of spill waste

Depending on the nature of the spill, it may produce hazardous waste. All saturated absorbent material must be put in purpose-built sealed plastic bags to prevent the material from leaking. Spill waste bins are located on the RPT apron.

All contaminated absorbent material requires disposal at an approved disposal facility. ASA Groundstaff must be notified if the spill waste bins are used so that the product can be removed.

REPORTING SPILLS

All spills MUST be reported.

Minor Spills - (less than 2m²) call the Aerodrome Reporting Officer on 0402 088 154

Major Spills - (greater than 2m²) call the Aviation Rescue Fire Fighting Service on 8958 4799 and the Aerodrome Reporting Officer on 0402 088 154

An Environment Incident Form, available from Airport Operations, must be completed.

SPILL RESPONSE EQUIPMENT

All operators on airport are required to maintain sufficient response equipment to manage the type and size of the spill that may occur at their premises, or in association with their work.

There is a variety of spill response equipment. The type and quantity of fuel, oil and chemicals you use and store at your facility will determine the type and quantity of spill response equipment you require.

Spill response material designed to target specific substances is commercially available. For example absorbent mats and booms designed to absorb hydrocarbons (fuel and oil) and allow water to pass through is available.

Spill Response Equipment can include:

- » Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – gloves, coveralls, goggles and boots
- » Absorbent materials such as bunds and booms, socks and mats etc
- » Absorbent Granules
- » Stormwater Drain Caps
- » Portable Bunds
- » Disposal bags or containers
- » Brush and dustpan

In facilities where small amounts (<20L) of Dangerous Goods and Chemicals are used and stored, absorbent substances such as chemsorb or saw dust are sufficient for spill response.

Make sure your emergency spill kits are in accessible places and everyone knows where they are. Place your emergency telephone contact sheet in places it will be needed e.g. with the kit or by the phone.

Make it one person's responsibility to maintain the kits and replace equipment after a spill. You can assemble your own emergency spill kits or buy standard kits by referring to the Yellow Pages under Safety Consultants and Safety Equipment.

To assemble your own spill kits you can buy a wheelie bin for each high risk area, fill it with what you need and put a copy of your spill procedure and emergency telephone numbers on it.

PREVENTING STORMWATER POLLUTION

PREVENTING A SPILL

Every facility at the airport that handles, stores, uses or transports substances that could contaminate the environment or endanger people and property needs to be proactive in preventing spills.

Prevent spills by:

- » providing the correct storage equipment such as drip trays for collecting substances that may spill or leak into the environment
- » ensuring all staff know how to handle, store, use and transport materials and substances properly
- » knowing where the stormwater and sewer drains are and ensuring only rain goes into the stormwater drains
- » at all times keeping your site clean and tidy
- » being prepared to cope with a spill by providing equipment and staff training in the correct use of spill procedures and equipment
- » setting up internal systems so that staff can protect our environment

CONTACTS

- » ASA Aerodrome Reporting Officer - 0402 088 154
- » ASA Maintenance - 0402 088157
- » DIA Environment Manager - 89201820
- » Airservices Aviation Rescue Fire Fighting Service - 8958 4799



Water is a valuable resource and our use of water for drinking, farming, fishing and recreation can be threatened by discharge of contaminants.

GLOSSARY

Aircraft Fueling Ramp¹ – any outdoor area at an airport, including aprons and hardstands, where aircraft are normally fuelled or defueled.

Aircraft Loading Walkway¹ – an aboveground device through which passengers move between a point in an airport terminal building and an aircraft. Included in this category are walkways that are essentially fixed and permanently placed, or walkways that are essentially mobile in nature and that fold, telescope, or pivot from a fixed point at the airport terminal building.

Airport – the airport owned and operated by Alice Springs Airport at Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

Airport Ramp¹ – any outdoor area, including aprons and hardstands, where aircraft can be positioned, stored, serviced, or maintained, irrespective of the nature of the surface of the area.

Airport Terminal Building¹ – a structure used primarily for air passenger enplaning or deplaning, including ticket sales, flight information, baggage handling, and other necessary function in connection with air transport operations. This term includes any extensions and satellite buildings used for passenger handling or aircraft flight service functions. Aircraft loading walkways and “mobile lounges” are excluded.

Airside – the area inside the security fence of the Airport which has controlled entry

Alice Springs Airport – Alice Springs Airport Pty Ltd

Apron – the hard surface area in which the aircraft park, unload and reload passengers and cargo as well as refuel, refill water, remove wastes and carry out maintenance on aircraft

ASA – Alice Springs Airport Pty Ltd

Bundling – a constructed impervious embankment or wall, either permanent or temporary, which may surround storage areas, drains etc which is designed to prevent migration of any spill or leak to the surrounding drains or the ground

Environmental Incident – the release of anything that has the potential to contaminate the airport environment e.g. air, water and soil

Hazardous Material – materials which, without adequate safeguards, may contaminate and harm the environment. This includes dangerous goods and many industrial chemicals

Landside – that portion of an airport not designated airside and to which the general public normally has free access

PPE – Personal Protective Equipment – includes gloves, coveralls, goggles and boots which should be worn when attending a spill

Potential Fuel Spill Points¹ – the points on or around the aircraft or airport ramp where fuel can be released. These points include fueling hydrants, fuel servicing vehicles, fuel tank fill connections, fuel vent openings, and fuel dump valves.

Safety Data Sheet – contains the information on the chemical constituents of a product and their properties, health hazard information, first aid, precautions for use, disposal information and advice to doctors. This information will be requested in the event of a major spill

Shall¹ – indicates a mandatory requirement

Should¹ – indicates a recommendation or that which is advised but not required

¹ National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 415 Standard on Airport Terminal Buildings, Fueling Ramp Drainage, and Loading Walkways 2008 Edition, NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471, An International Codes and Standards Organization





Alice Springs
Airport

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