

Airport Safety Technology R&D

Gravel Runway Work - Alaska

Presented to: AJP-6310

By: Jim Patterson, Jr.

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Federal Aviation
Administration



Gravel Runway Markings



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On May 4th, 2011 applied paint on gravel runway at Palmer Municipal Airport, AK

Positive comments received already:

Art is using it for the first time today with a student - we couldn't be more pleased.

We really appreciate the opportunity afforded us to help be the "test model" for this important innovative training aid for PAQ !!!

We have a resounding success on our hands. Again, please pass our thanks onto all concerned. In addition to Art's comments, I've heard there were between 15-20 users in addition to our students yesterday afternoon and evening. Will continue to solicit feedback and keep you apprised as information comes in. A grand pay off already for a terrific collaborative effort between industry, City and Federal entities. I look forward to further success on all fronts with regard to safety and aviation activities here in Palmer.

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Ken, I used the runway all day. I gotta tell you. It is so much easier to train with those markings. I am better able to access vital clues for landings. I can see the squares in my perif. vision. One thing I really liked was the fact I can see when were getting close to the end. The center square provides a target so my students have a perfect spot to aim at. It also provides a place to start their take off roll. With one of my advanced students, we used the first square to start on instead of using the end of the runway. We used the same square for landing and in fact were drawn to using it instead of a spot closer to the end. This made it safer and one heck of a lot more fun. It only took me about 3 landing to figure out that we needed these years ago. It is much safer for the guy in the back seat. Perfect, thanks and appreciate the move towards safety.

Thank you for taking the time to forward this note to me. It is our great pleasure to have the opportunity to work together with the FAA to provide this safety training opportunity to area pilots. Since the statistical incidence of aircraft accidents increases at moose hunting season, it is important for our pilots to have a place to practice short field takeoffs and landings. I'm proud that this is happening in Palmer!

The End.

