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DATE: 8/15/75

ADVISORY CIRCULAR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT: LIGHT SIGNALS FROM THE CONTROL TOWER FOR GROUND VEHICLES,
EQUIPMENT, AND PERSONNEL

1. PURPOSE. This circular provides the aviation community with the meaning of the light signals used in communicating to ground vehicles, equipment, and personnel on the airport movement area from the control tower.
2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This advisory circular is effective upon receipt.
3. RELATED DOCUMENTS.
 - a. Terminal Air Traffic Control Handbook, 7110.8D
 - b. Airman's Information Manual, Part I
 - c. FAR 91.77, ATC Light Signals
 - d. Facility Management Handbook, 7210.3B
 - e. FAR 139.59, Ground Vehicles
4. DISCUSSION. It has been a long standing practice for air traffic control personnel in control towers to use light gun signals for the control of ground vehicles, personnel, and equipment operators that are not radio equipped. These signals have been the same as those used for the control of aircraft. Recently, the use of these lights signals was questioned in regard to the control of non-aircraft traffic. Accordingly, we have taken action to modify the table in the Terminal Air Traffic Control handbook, etc., to include for the control of other than aircraft on the airport movement area.
5. APPLICABILITY.
 - a. The following table contains the light signals used for the control of ground vehicles, personnel, and equipment operators that are not radio equipped and whose duties require them to operate on the airport movement area, specifically runways and taxiways. It also shows the light signals used for aircraft.

TABLE - ATC LIGHT SIGNALS

Color and type of signal	Meaning		
	Aircraft on the ground	Aircraft in flight	Movement of vehicles, equipment, and personnel
Steady green	Cleared for takeoff	Cleared to land	Cleared to cross, proceed; go
Flashing green	Cleared to taxi	Return for landing (to be followed by steady green at the proper time)	Not applicable
Steady red	STOP	Give way to other aircraft and continue circling	STOP
Flashing red	Taxi clear of runway in use	Airport unsafe do not land	Clear the taxiway/runway
Flashing white	Return to starting point on airport	Not applicable	Return to starting point on airport
Alternating red and green	Exercise extreme caution.		

- b. Airport managers/operators should assure that all personnel who will operate on the movement area are aware of the signals used and should establish safe operating procedures.

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STOCK LEVEL INVENTORY REQUIREMENTS - M-494.3

Codes:

R = Reprint.	M = M-494 Stock Inventory Count.
I = Initial Stock.	SL = Stock Level Notification.
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NUMBER	TITLE/DATE/ROUTING SYMBOL(OPI)/ **PRICE/SN	PAGES	COPY COUNT	REPT.
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20-111	Communication Interference Caused By Unintentional Keyed Microphones (10-10-80). (AWS-350).	3	1500I 175R 200R 20SL 300R	9/83 2/85 7/85 3/85
20-112	Airworthiness and Operational Approval of Airborne Systems to be Used In Lieu of Ground Proximity Warning System (GWPS) (2-19-81). (AWS-130). #5-23291	5	247R 50M -0-SL 195R	-/83 8/84 9/84 3/85
20-113	Pilot Precautions and Procedures to be taken in Preventing Aircraft Reciprocating Engine Induction System & Fuel System Icing Problems (10-22-81). (ACE-100). #5-23370	6	750I 484R 250R 7SL 250	3/83 3/85 6/85 9/85
20-114	Manufacturers' Service Documents (10-22-81). (AWS-100). #5-23292	6	750I 197R 7SL -0-SL 190R	7/83 9/84 6/85 8/85

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20-115	Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics (RTCA) Document DO-178 (9-3-83). (ANS-120). Sufficient stock per OPI.	1	750I 100SL 100SL	3/84 8/85
20-116	Marking Aircraft Fuel Filler Openings With Color Coded Decals (9-17-81). (ANS-130).	2	1500R 100SL 500R	1/83 8/84 2/85
20-117	Hazards Following Ground Deicing and Ground Operations in Conditions Conducive to Aircraft Icing (12-17-82). (ANS-3).	38	6348M 750I	8/84
CH-1				
20-118	Emergency Evacuation Demonstration From Small Airplanes (7-12-83). (ACE-111).	4	1000I	
20-119	Fuel Drain Valves (2-7-83). (ANS-130).		1750I	
20-120	Nondirectional Beacon Frequency Congestion (6-18-84). (AES-520).	2	1000I	