

	<b>AIRCRAFT PATROL ZONES</b>		<i>Issued: FEB 2013</i>
			<i>Revised:</i>
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<b>RECOMMENDED PRACTICES</b>	PART	HIGHWAY SIGNS	
	SECTION	GUIDE AND INFORMATION SIGNS	
	SUB-SECTION		

**General**

Aircraft Patrol Zones enable a type of speed limit enforcement involving an on-ground enforcement vehicle for ticketing and an aircraft to calculate vehicle speed by measuring the time it takes a vehicle to traverse the distance between specific pavement markings.

**Standard**

An aircraft patrol zone marking is a transverse marking placed on the roadway for the purpose of assisting in the enforcement of speed regulations. These markings are yellow and 450 mm wide. They extend between the shoulder lines of the paved surface at 500 m intervals over a 3 km length of roadway. Aircraft Patrol Zones on undivided highways are marked in accordance with drawing TCS-C-325 in Section C3.6 of the Alberta Transportation Pavement Marking Guide, 2003. The same marking principles apply for divided highways.

The pavement markings used in Aircraft Patrol Zones must be certified, as specified in Section 165 of the Traffic Safety Act, which says:

**165** Where lines for the purpose of indicating distances are painted or repainted on the highway, a certificate or statement of accuracy

- (a) purporting to be signed by an engineer or land surveyor who is
  - (i) employed by the Government and under the administration of the

- Minister,
- (ii) employed by a road authority other than the Minister, or
- (iii) providing services to the Government or a road authority, and

(b) certifying the measured distance between those lines, shall be admitted in evidence as proof, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, of the facts stated in the certificate or statement of accuracy without proof of the signature or official character of the person signing the certificate or statement of accuracy.

The Alberta Transportation Pavement Marking Guide contains an example Aircraft Patrol Zones certificate in section C3.6. Re-certification of the markings is required if the Aircraft Patrol Zone is relocated, or if a pavement overlay occurs. Re-certification is not required after a simple repaint of the markings. Completed certificates are to be kept at the relevant Alberta Transportation district office, and accessible to the courts if needed.

Similar to when photo enforcement is being used in an urban area, it is important to inform motorists of the presence of speed enforcement in Aircraft Patrol Zones. This is accomplished by providing ID-505 signs in advance of Aircraft Patrol Zones.

Aircraft Patrol Zone signage (ID-505) consists of an RB-1 maximum speed sign embedded into a 2400 mm x 1200 mm sign with black text and symbol on a white background.



<b>ID-505</b>	<b>2400 mm x 1200 mm</b>	
<b>Colour</b>	Symbol and border Background	Black White
<b>Sheeting</b>	ASTM Type III or IV	

## Guidelines for Use

Alberta Transportation only installs aircraft patrol zone markings and signage when it is requested by the R.C.M.P. or Alberta Sheriff Highway Patrol as part of their speed management strategy, and agreed upon by the Alberta Transportation district Operations Manager.

Aircraft Patrol Zones shall only be installed in rural areas where the R.C.M.P. and/or Alberta Sheriff Highway Patrol intend to use them routinely for actual enforcement. They are not to be installed to serve merely as deterrents to speeding. Aircraft Patrol Zones will not be permitted on ring roads (such as Stoney Trail in Calgary and Anthony Henday Drive in Edmonton).

Aircraft Patrol Zone signage is installed one kilometre in advance of the start of the Zone for each direction of travel on undivided highways (installed for one direction of travel on divided highways). Sign placement should be in accordance with the Recommended Practices Placement of Signs guideline.

## Process for Application

When the enforcement agency (R.C.M.P. or Alberta Sheriff Highway Patrol) wishes to have an Aircraft Patrol Zone installed, the following process should be used to gain approval from Alberta Transportation:

1. Enforcement agency submits a proposal to the relevant Alberta Transportation district office. The proposal should contain required location(s), relevant timing/dates, etc.
2. District office reviews the proposal based on appropriateness of the location and whether or not it may conflict with safety or highway operations. District office may then approve the location.
3. District office establishes and certifies the markings and installs information signage.
4. District office advises the enforcement agency when they can proceed with speed monitoring.
5. Enforcement agency advises district office when the Aircraft Patrol Zone is no longer required so it can be removed by the district.

Prior to re-painting Aircraft Patrol Zone pavement markings, the District office should contact the responsible enforcement agency (R.C.M.P. or Alberta Highway Sheriff Patrol) to ensure the Aircraft Patrol Zone is still actively being used.

**References to Standards**

<i>Traffic Safety Act</i>	Section 165
<i>AT Highway Pavement Marking Guide</i>	Section C3.6
<i>Recommended Practices, Section: General</i>	Placement of Signs