

GTAA

FACT SHEET

Noise Management

at Toronto Pearson International Airport

2007

The Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA) works with the aviation community, city councillors and local residents through the Noise Management Committee to manage and mitigate aircraft noise at Toronto Pearson International Airport. The GTAA has a dedicated Noise Management Office and Enforcement division that works towards noise mitigation, investigation of complaints and enforcement action as necessary.

Summary of Initiatives

- Restricting operating hours of jet aircraft based on noise certification levels
- Managing the total number of nighttime movements to remain within Transport Canada allowances
- Using departure and arrival procedures to minimize noise impacts in neighbouring communities
- Working with surrounding municipalities to restrict construction of housing in higher noise level areas
- Working with community representatives on the Noise Management Committee to maintain public dialogue about aviation noise

Noise Certification

- The GTAA follows the guidelines of managing noise as prescribed by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
- Chapter 3 noise standards require that all subsonic jet aircraft types certificated after October 1977 meet more stringent maximum noise levels
- Aircraft that conform to those noise emission standards include the Boeing 747-400, new generation 737, 757, and Airbus 319, 320, 330 and 340, among others
- Since April 1, 2002, only jet aircraft greater than 34,000 kg that comply with Chapter 3 standards are permitted to operate at Toronto Pearson
- In June 2001, on the basis of recommendations made by the Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP/5), the ICAO Council adopted a new Chapter 4 noise standard which is more stringent than that contained in Chapter 3
- In January 2006, a new standard was applied to newly certificated aircraft and to Chapter 3 aircraft for which re-certification to Chapter 4 is requested

Restricted Hours of Operation

- Non-noise certificated aircraft are prohibited between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m.
- Chapter 2 aircraft exempted by Transport Canada may operate between 7 a.m. and midnight
- Chapter 3 aircraft may operate between 6:30 a.m. and 12:30 a.m.
- There are a limited number of arrivals of the quietest Chapter 3 aircraft scheduled between 12:30 a.m. and 1:00 a.m. and between 6:00 a.m. and 6:30 a.m.
- Transport Canada has imposed a limit on all aircraft movements between 12:30 a.m. and 6:30 a.m.
- The GTAA Airport Duty Manager may grant operating extensions on the day of operation for flights delayed by weather, emergencies, air traffic control issues or mechanical difficulties

Flight Procedures

- The GTAA works with air traffic control (NAV CANADA) to maintain strict flight procedures for arriving and departing aircraft
- Preferred departures are to the southwest on Runways 23 and 24R, and northwest on Runway 33R between midnight and 6:30 a.m.
- Preferred arrivals are from the southwest on Runways 05 and 06L and from the northwest on Runway 15L between midnight and 6:30 a.m.
- Operations on other runways are limited as much as possible during this time period
- Noise abatement procedures governing flights out of and into Toronto Pearson are approved by Transport Canada and are legally binding on aircraft operators
- Aircraft operators not in compliance with the NAPs and NFRs are subject to enforcement action levied by Transport Canada

Noise Management Office

- The GTAA's Noise Management Office monitors airport operations in relation to the Noise Management Program including the published Noise Abatement Procedures (NAPs) and Night Flight Restrictions (NFRs), as well as responding to noise complaints
- Noise complaints concerning arriving or departing aircraft within 10 nautical miles of Toronto Pearson can be registered by calling (416) 247-7682 or through www.gtaa.com

Community Consultation

- The GTAA works with neighbouring communities through a Noise Management Committee
- This forum allows residents and others to meet with the GTAA and representatives of the aviation industry to discuss noise issues
- A series of Noise Forums and Workshops are held each year for residents to advise the GTAA about community noise concerns, as well as learn more about noise reduction initiatives
- An annual Noise Report is produced by the GTAA, and is available in PDF form at www.gtaa.com

Media Contact

Greater Toronto Airports Authority - Scott Armstrong
Manager, Media Relations
Media Line. 416.776.3709
E-mail. scott.armstrong@gtaa.com