

MEDIA STATEMENT

AIRPORTS COMPANY SOUTH AFRICA STATEMENT ON CERTIFICATION OF INSTRUMENT LANDING SYSTEMS

BEDFORDVIEW, 13 August 2020 – Airports owned and managed by Airports Company South Africa are open and operating safely while some instrument landing systems (ILS's) need to be re-certified.

A report to the effect that our airports will be or are closed while certifications of some ILS's are renewed is false, as confirmed in a separate statement by the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA).

The process for some ILS re-certifications has been delayed because the service provider appointed by SACAA has been hampered by global lockdown regulations and the need to service its equipment.

O. R. Tambo International Airport has four ILS's. Two of these have been switched off because the certification period has lapsed. King Shaka International Airport has two ILS's and both have been switched off because the certification period has lapsed. George Airport has two ILS's and both have been switched off because the certification period has lapsed.

Cape Town International Airport has two ILS's. One has been temporarily downgraded to a lower instrument meteorological usage level. On Thursday 13 August 2020, both ILS's at Cape Town International Airport will be switched off because the certification period will lapse.

Airports Company South Africa wishes to emphasise that safety is of paramount importance. As stated by SACAA, aircraft can still land without an ILS in operation because there are other flight procedures that can be used. However, visibility on the runway must be determined first. Flying does not stop in the absence of an instrument landing system and there is no need to close any airport.

SACAA has advised that its service provider's aircraft is expected to arrive in South Africa by the end of this week and that the calibration programme will prioritise airports where ILS's have been switched off.

ENDS

Media enquiries:

Gopolang Peme, Media Specialist, Airports Company South Africa

E-mail: gopolang.peme@airports.co.za

Mobile: 067 422 9988