

## **AIRTAP FREQUENTLY USED TERMS AND ACRONYMS**

**AAAE:** American Association of Airport Executives

**AC:** Advisory Circular — Informational policy and guidance material.

**AIM:** Aeronautical Information Manual—Instructions and procedures for operating aircraft in the U.S. National Airspace System

**AOPA:** Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association

**AIP:** Airport Improvement Program—Federal program administering financial grants-in-aid for airport development projects.

**ALP:** Airport Layout Plan—Drawings illustrating existing and proposed property, facilities and structures.

**Airport Master Plan:** Documents and drawings covering airport development to include the Airport Layout Plan.

**Airport Traffic Area:** Usually, airspace within five statute miles from the geographical center of any airport.

**Apron/Ramp:** Aircraft parking area.

**ARFF:** Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting

**ASOS:** Automated Surface Observation System

**AWOS:** Automated Weather Observing System—Primary surface weather observing system in the U.S.

**ATC:** Air Traffic Control—Separation services involving aircraft utilizing a control tower.

**ATIS:** Automated Terminal Information System—Provides continuous broadcast of an airport's current weather.

**AVGAS:** Aviation gasoline.

**Aviation Easement:** A type of property deed restriction.

**Based Aircraft:** Aircraft stationed at an airport on a long-term basis.

**CIP:** Capital Improvement Program

**Controlled Airspace:** Typically, under air traffic control (ATC).

**CTAF:** Common Traffic Advisory Frequency—Radio frequency used by aircraft at an airport without an operating control tower (also see UNICOM).

**EA:** Environmental Assessment—Assessment of the environmental effects of a proposed action.

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**EIS:** Environmental Impact Statement—Document evaluating the effect of a proposed action on the environment.

**FAA:** Federal Aviation Administration

**FOD:** Foreign Object Damage (Or Debris)

**FONSI:** Finding of No Significant Impact—Determination by the FAA that a proposed action has no significant impact on the environment.

**FBO:** Fixed Base Operator—Business providing aircraft services to the general public.

**FSDO:** Flight Standards District Office—An FAA field office.

**FSS:** Flight Service Station – Weather briefing and flight plan facility.

**GA:** General Aviation—Civil aviation except air carrier or air taxi.

**GPS:** Global Positioning System—Satellite-based navigation system.

**IFR:** Instrument Flight Rules

**ILS:** Instrument Landing System—Precision navigation approach system.

**MALSR:** Medium Intensity Approach Light System with Runway Alignment Indicator Lights

**NAVAID:** Navigational Aid

**Non-precision Instrument Runway:** Runway with limited navigation system

**Non-towered/Non-controlled Airport:** Airport without a control tower.

**N-Numbers:** Federal Government aircraft registration numbers.

**NOTAM:** Notice To Airmen—Notice containing airport/airspace information.

**NPIAS:** National Plan of Integrated Airports System

**NTSB:** National Transportation Safety Board – Federal agency charged with investigating transportation accidents.

**OFZ:** Obstacle Free Zone—Protected space above/adjacent to a runway.

**Obstruction:** Object exceeding a limiting height in airspace.

**Operation:** Aircraft take-off or landing.

**PART 77:** Federal regulations identifying airspace obstructions.

**PART 139:** Federal regulations for airports serving air carrier aircraft.

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**PART 150:** Federal regulations concerning noise compatibility standards

**PART 1452:** Federal security regulations for airports.

**PAPIS:** Precision Approach Path Indicator System—Lighting/navigation system.

**PCL:** Pilot Controlled Lighting

**Precision Instrument Runway:** Runway with an instrument approach.

**REILS:** Runway End Identifier Lights

**Reliever Airport:** Airport serving general aviation aircraft that might otherwise use a congested air carrier airport

**RWY:** Runway—Defined surface prepared for landings and takeoffs of aircraft.

**RPZ:** Runway Protection Zone—Surface protected from obstructions.

**RSA:** Runway Safety Area—Ground surface adjacent to runway.

**SASO:** Specialized Aviation Service Operations

**SNOTAM:** Information concerning winter contaminants (also see NOTAM).

**SRE:** Snow Removal Equipment

**SWPPP:** Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan

**TWY:** Taxiway – A defined surface prepared for the taxiing of aircraft.

**Transient Aircraft:** Aircraft not based at the airport.

**TSA:** Transportation Security Administration—Federal agency regulating transportation security requirements.

**UNICOM:** Universal Communications (also see CTAF).

**VASIS:** Visual Approach Slope Indicator System—Lighting/navigational system.

**VFR:** Visual Flight Rules

**Visual Runway:** Runway intended solely for visual approach procedures.

**VOR:** Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range—Navigation system.

**Z/ZULU:** Greenwich Mean Time