

International (Transborder) Airport-to-Airport Mutual Aid Programs

ACRP Staff Comments: The proposed research could complement ACRP Project 04-10, Airport-to-Airport Mutual Aid Program, which is in the publication process. ACRP Synthesis 04-09, Synthesis of Emergency Management and Mutual Aid Agreements for Airports, is underway and is compiling local mutual aid agreements.

TRB Aviation Group Committees Comments: AVIATION SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Mutual aid is a critical need for airport emergency management, including both within country and potentially trans-border. So, it is good to see a proposal addressing the potential challenges of trans-border mutual aid given the potential political and diplomatic challenges that such arrangements may raise. One question would be whether any specific models or examples of trans-border mutual aid agreements can serve to define best practices, or is this too new and emerging? A second question is whether there are any ways to identify specific locations where trans-border mutual aid may be most beneficial and what consideration to this issue has been given so far in these areas (e.g., what about Seattle and Vancouver, given their proximity).

Review Panel: Not recommended — The proposed research would apply to a small group of airports. The product from ACRP 04-10, Airport-to-Airport Mutual Aid Programs, that is going to be published, will be transferable to those airports wishing to engage in agreements with Mexico and Canada. The only difference will be in complying with Mexican and Canadian laws or regulations. There does not seem to be much value in this work.

AOC Disposition: No funds allocated. No discussion.

RRD 5 Topic:	Emergency & Disaster Management
FY2013 Focus Area:	n/a

2013 AIRPORT COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM PROBLEM STATEMENT



I. PROBLEM TITLE

International (Transborder) Airport-to-Airport Mutual Aid Programs

II. RESEARCH PROBLEM STATEMENT

Haiti response, relief, and recovery showed the potential and difficulties of international airport-to-airport mutual aid. It also showed the potential for other partners (airlines, federal agencies, international agencies, and non-governmental organizations) to work with and through airport-to-airport mutual aid. Conventional wisdom is that language, cultural, and regulatory barriers make international airport-to-airport too difficult or even impossible. However, international airlines work successfully in the face of exactly these same barriers.

The first example of non-U.S. airport-to-airport mutual aid occurred this winter with emergency de-icing fluid sharing among German airports and in other EU countries. Even in Katrina, Calgary International Airport sent aid to Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport.

III. OBJECTIVE

Provide a guidebook and final report, using ACRP 04-10 as the model.

IV. RESEARCH PROPOSED

Using literature searches, interviews, workshops/focus groups, and site visits,

1. Define need.
2. Define barriers.
3. Find means to overcome barriers.
4. Develop organizational system(s).
5. Design effective communications protocols.
6. Develop feedback mechanisms for continuous improvement.

V. ESTIMATE OF THE PROBLEM FUNDING AND RESEARCH PERIOD

Recommended Funding: \$350,000

Research Period: 21 months

VI. URGENCY AND PAYOFF POTENTIAL

Severe winter weather in recent years, the ripple effects of the Iceland volcanoes, the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, and other major disasters and catastrophes show the interconnectedness of all parts of the global aviation system, including airports.

VII. RELATED RESEARCH

ACRP 04-10 "Airport-to-Airport Mutual Aid Programs"

Smith, J. F. (2011). "Are your airports disaster ready?" Presentation to EMEC 2012 – INTER Airport Europe 2012, 12 October 2012, Vienna.

Smith, J. F. (2010). "Airport disaster preparedness." Panel participant, 20th Airports Council International World/Latin America - Caribbean Annual General Assembly, 3 November 2010, Bermuda

Smith, J. F. (2010). "Regional cooperation, coordination, and communication among airports during disasters." Transportation Research Report, *Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, No. 2177. Washington, DC: Transportation Research Board of the National Academies.

Smith, J. F. (2010). "The roles of general aviation airports in disaster response: Preview report." Presentation at AAAE GA Summit, July 1, 2010, Morristown, NJ.

Smith, J. F. (2010) "Airport disaster preparedness in a community context." Presentation at Transportation Research Board Annual Conference, January 12, 2010,

Smith, J. F., F. McCosby, and S. Wareham. (2010). "Airports helping airports: Disaster operations groups" *Airport Magazine*, 21(7), 30-32.

Smith, J. F. "Airport disaster preparedness in a community context." Presentation to Airports Council International – North America (ACI-NA) Public Safety & Security Conference, San Diego, March 16, 2009.

Smith, J. F. (2009). Airport disaster preparedness in a community context. Available at www.airportstudy2008.com.

Smith, J. F. (2008b). Maintaining airport continuity of business and operations during disaster response: the role of command and control relationships with emergency management agencies. *J. Bus. Continuity & Emerg. Planning*, 3(1), 66-74.

Smith, J. F., S. S. Waggoner, A. Rabjohn, and A. Bachar. (2008b). Protecting airport functionality during disaster responses: Solutions. *J. Emergency Mgt.*, 6(4), 57-64.

Smith, J. F., S. S. Waggoner, A. Rabjohn, and A. Bachar. (2008a). Protecting airport functionality during disaster responses: terrorism, war, civil war, and riots. *J. Emergency Mgt.*, 6(3), 53-62.

Smith, J. F., S. S. Waggoner, A. Rabjohn, and A. Bachar. (2007). Protecting airport functionality during disaster responses: Natural disasters, accidents, and pandemics. *J. Emergency Mgt.*, 5(6), 29-40.

Smith, J. F., S. S. Waggoner, and G. Hall. (2007). Memphis Airport as a model for disaster response. *Crisis Response Journal*, 3(3), 30-32.

Smith, J. F., S. S. Waggoner, and G. Hall. (2007). Building sound emergency management into airports. *IATC 2007 Proceedings*, 47-60.

VIII. PERSON(S) DEVELOPING THE PROBLEM

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IX. PROCESS USED TO DEVELOP PROBLEM STATEMENT

This problem statement was developed by an individual (James F. Smith). The problem statement was refined in consultation with the Airport Planning and Operations Committee (APOC) of the Transportation & Development Institute of ASCE. APOC endorses this proposed project.

X. DATE AND SUBMITTED BY

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