

CERTALERT

ADVISORY * CAUTIONARY * NON-DIRECTIVE

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DATE: 19 December, 1997 **No. 97-10**
TO: AIRPORT CERTIFICATION SAFETY INSPECTORS
TOPIC: SNOW REMOVAL

FAA and the National Weather Service have installed weather observation equipment at many airports. Because of the location of many of the Automated Surface Observing Systems (ASOS), snow drifts and snow accumulation may interfere with the ASOS sensors resulting in erroneous information.

The purpose of this CERTALERT is to request snow removal crews to use caution during snow removal operations to avoid blowing snow from obscuring ASOS visibility sensors or to prevent snow accumulation from interfering with other ASOS sensors. If there is any doubt about specific areas that need to be kept clear around weather and navigational equipment, the airport operator should contact FAA's Airway Facilities on the airport or in the appropriate regional office.

OSB

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Airport Safety and Compliance Branch