



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
**Distracting or flash blinding pilots with a direct bright light source is
illegal and dangerous**

DECEMBER 11, 2013 (REGINA, SK) – In 2013, Regina Airport Authority and the Regina Police Service received reports of twelve incidents involving a directed bright light source (e.g. laser pointers) aimed at the cockpit of aircraft in flight. Aiming a directed bright light source into the cockpit of an aircraft in flight is hazardous to pilots and threatens passenger safety.

We would like to inform and remind the public it is a federal offence under the Aeronautics Act to aim a directed bright light source into the cockpit of an aircraft in flight as it creates a serious potential threat to aviation safety. It is illegal to point a laser into the cockpit of an aircraft in flight and, if convicted, the offender could face either, or both, of the following:

- \$100,000 maximum fine under the Aeronautics Act
- Imprisonment of up to five years

Regina Airport Authority and the Regina Police Service ask that any incident where a laser or direct bright light source is pointed into the cockpit of an aircraft in flight, be reported immediately to the Regina Police Service at 777-6500.

For more information please visit www.tc.gc.ca/lasers and/or view the attached document.

Regina Airport Authority and the Regina Police Service thank you for your dissemination of this information.

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About the Regina International Airport

Regina Airport Authority Inc. is a federally registered, not-for-profit corporation, with a 60-year lease to operate the Regina International Airport on behalf of the community and stakeholders. Global air links are provided by our service partners Air Canada, Air Canada Express, WestJet, WestJet Encore, Delta Air Lines, United Airlines, Air Transat, Sunwing, Express Air and Purolator, offering over 200 direct flights per week to Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Toronto, Denver, Chicago, Minneapolis, Ottawa (seasonal – summer) and to seasonal sun destinations including Las Vegas, Phoenix, Mexico and the Caribbean. More details and real time flight information at www.yqr.ca.

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About the Regina Police Service

The Regina Police Service provides policing to the municipality of the City of Regina. We are dedicated to Public Service. We work with our community and our partners to keep Regina safe. The Mission of the Regina Police Service is "Public Service First", a phrase that has been on the RPS breast badge since 1959. The Vision of the Regina Police Service is, "Working Together to Keep Regina Safe", emphasizing that public safety is our primary goal and we work with partners and the people of our city to achieve this vision. Our Values are expressed in three words, "Respectful", "Professional" and "Service".

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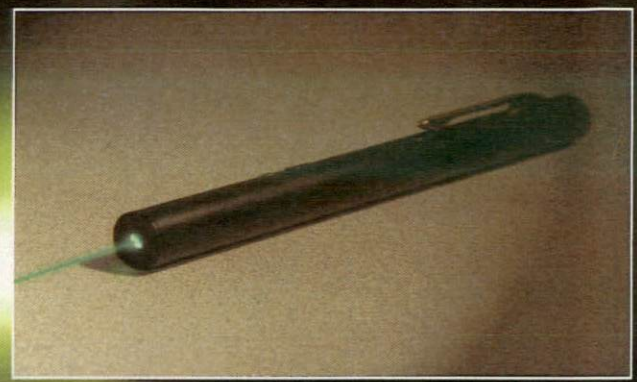


Use Laser Pointers Safely and Legally

NEVER aim laser pointers at any aircraft



Pointing a laser into the cockpit of an aircraft is a serious potential threat to aviation safety.



To avoid possible prosecution, report any laser misuse to the appropriate authorities.

Aiming a directed bright light (DBL) source into the cockpit of an aircraft is a federal offence because it jeopardizes aviation safety. These light sources are also hazardous to pilots and threaten passenger safety.

Distracting or flashblinding pilots is dangerous

Pointing a laser into the cockpit of an aircraft is a serious potential threat to aviation safety. The three possible consequences of this action, from most to least hazardous, are: distraction (distracting but the pilot can see past the light), glare (when the pilot cannot see past the light), temporary flashblindness (blocks vision during and after exposure as with a camera flash). In the worst-case scenario, these effects could cause a major accident.

It is illegal

If convicted of pointing a laser into an aircraft cockpit, the offender could face the \$100,000 maximum fine under the Aeronautics Act, imprisonment of up to five years, or both penalties.

Transport Canada (TC) is working with various police authorities, other government departments, and the aviation industry to enforce this law.

What you can do

If you witness any laser DBL activity that may jeopardize aviation safety, please report it to your local police authorities.

If you are planning on projecting a DBL source into navigable airspace, please complete a notice of proposal form found on TC's Web site.

If you encounter laser illuminations or other DBL sources while in flight, please complete the DBL incident reporting form found on TC's Web site.

For more information or to access these forms, please visit: www.tc.gc.ca/lasers