

RUNWAY 13/31 FRICTION RESTORATION

We are pleased to announce that the friction issues associated with the overlay on Runway 13/31 have been resolved.

Upon reports of diminished braking action on Runway 13/31 when the surface was wet, Airport Management and the City of San Marcos began working closely with TxDOT Aviation and the engineering firm for the project to determine a solution.

In an effort to resolve the loss of surface friction, TxDOT proposed a shotblasting technique to abrade the surface which had been successfully performed at other airports and on highway surfaces.



A shotblasting contractor, Skidabrader, mobilized to the airport on Tuesday morning to abrade a test area. This area was used to support making a decision to complete the entire runway to improve friction sufficiently to the point that aircraft can land safely in wet weather.

After the test area was abraded, several tests were performed which indicated a significant improvement in friction.

To confirm the test results, McCoy's Building Supply volunteered to accelerate to approximately 90 knots in their Cessna Citation and apply their brakes over the abraded surface and continue onto the original surface. The pilot reported excellent braking action on the abraded surface compared to significantly diminished braking action on the original surface.



As a result of these engineering and pilot tests, Skidabradar was given the green light to complete the shotblasting technique on the entire length of the runway.

We'd like to thank McCoy's Building Supply for volunteering their time and aircraft to provide real-world confirmation of the fix to the friction issue.

Thank you to our tenants and visitors for their patience during this process. We're confident that during the next rain event, our ILS runway can now safely remain open.

Please give our office a call at (512) 216-6039 if we can answer questions.