



# Runway Condition Report (RCR) Specifications Switzerland

15.12.2021, Version 1.1

## Introduction

The purpose of this document is to define the permitted envelope and content of Runway Condition Report (RCR) messages that are sent by Swiss aerodromes that are obliged to submit SNOWTAM to skyguide by automated means (AFTN in this case).

## RCR format and possible content

AFTN header (ICAO Annex 10 Vol. II)																							
-------------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

SWAA* Serial number								Location indicator			Date/Time of assessment								Optional group						
S	W	*	*																						<≡(

Designation	Possible content	End of field
	SNOWTAM	→
SERIAL NUMBER	nnnn	<=

Item	Designation	Possible content	End of field
Aeroplane Performance Calculation Section			
A	AERODROME LOCATION INDICATOR	nnnn	<=
B	DATE/TIME OF ASSESSMENT	MMDDhhmm	→
C	LOWER RUNWAY DESIGNATION NUMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nn</li> <li>• nnL</li> <li>• nnC</li> <li>• nnR</li> </ul>	→
D	RUNWAY CONDITION CODE (RWYCC) FOR EACH RUNWAY THIRD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 4</li> <li>• 5</li> <li>• 6</li> </ul>	/ / →



<b>E</b>	<b>PER CENT COVERAGE OF THE CONTAMI- NANT FOR EACH RUNWAY THIRD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25</li> <li>• 50</li> <li>• 75</li> <li>• 100</li> <li>• NR</li> </ul>	/ / →
<b>F</b>	<b>DEPTH OF LOOSE CONTAMINANT FOR EACH RUNWAY THIRD (in mm)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nn</li> <li>• nnn</li> <li>• NR</li> </ul>	/ / →
<b>G</b>	<b>CONDITION DESCRIPTION FOR EACH RUNWAY THIRD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COMPACTED SNOW</li> <li>• DRY</li> <li>• DRY SNOW</li> <li>• DRY SNOW ON TOP OF COMPACTED SNOW</li> <li>• DRY SNOW ON TOP OF ICE</li> <li>• FROST</li> <li>• ICE</li> <li>• SLIPPERY WET</li> <li>• SLUSH</li> <li>• SPECIALLY PREPARED WINTER RUNWAY</li> <li>• STANDING WATER</li> <li>• WATER ON TOP OF COMPACTED SNOW</li> <li>• WET</li> <li>• WET ICE</li> <li>• WET SNOW</li> <li>• WET SNOW ON TOP OF COMPACTED SNOW</li> <li>• WET SNOW ON TOP OF ICE</li> </ul>	/ / →
<b>H</b>	<b>WIDTH OF RUNWAY TO WHICH THE RUNWAY CONDITION CODES APPLY, IF LESS THAN PUBLISHED WIDTH (in meters)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (nil)</li> <li>• nn</li> </ul>	<≡≡
<b>Situational Awareness Section</b>			
<b>I</b>	<b>REDUCED RUNWAY LENGTH, IF LESS THAN PUBLISHED LENGTH (in meters)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (nil)</li> <li>• RWY nn LDA REDUCED TO nnn</li> <li>• RWY nnL LDA REDUCED TO nnn</li> <li>• RWY nnC LDA REDUCED TO nnn</li> <li>• RWY nnR LDA REDUCED TO nnn</li> <li>• RWY nn LDA REDUCED TO nnnn</li> <li>• RWY nnL LDA REDUCED TO nnnn</li> <li>• RWY nnC LDA REDUCED TO nnnn</li> <li>• RWY nnR LDA REDUCED TO nnnn</li> </ul>	•→
<b>J</b>	<b>DRIFTING SNOW ON THE RUNWAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (nil)</li> <li>• RWY nn DRIFTING SNOW</li> <li>• RWY nnL DRIFTING SNOW</li> <li>• RWY nnC DRIFTING SNOW</li> <li>• RWY nnR DRIFTING SNOW</li> </ul>	•→

<b>K</b>	<b>LOOSE SAND ON THE RUNWAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (nil)</li> <li>• RWY nn LOOSE SAND</li> <li>• RWY nnL LOOSE SAND</li> <li>• RWY nnC LOOSE SAND</li> <li>• RWY nnR LOOSE SAND</li> </ul>	•→
<b>L</b>	<b>CHEMICAL TREATMENT ON THE RUNWAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (nil)</li> <li>• RWY nn CHEMICALLY TREATED</li> <li>• RWY nnL CHEMICALLY TREATED</li> <li>• RWY nnC CHEMICALLY TREATED</li> <li>• RWY nnR CHEMICALLY TREATED</li> </ul>	•→
<b>M</b>	<b>SNOWBANKS ON THE RUNWAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (nil)</li> <li>• RWY nn SNOWBANK Lnn FM CL</li> <li>• RWY nn SNOWBANK Rnn FM CL</li> <li>• RWY nn SNOWBANK LRnn FM CL</li> <li>• RWY nnL SNOWBANK Lnn FM CL</li> <li>• RWY nnL SNOWBANK Rnn FM CL</li> <li>• RWY nnL SNOWBANK LRnn FM CL</li> <li>• RWY nnC SNOWBANK Lnn FM CL</li> <li>• RWY nnC SNOWBANK Rnn FM CL</li> <li>• RWY nnC SNOWBANK LRnn FM CL</li> <li>• RWY nnR SNOWBANK Lnn FM CL</li> <li>• RWY nnR SNOWBANK Rnn FM CL</li> <li>• RWY nnR SNOWBANK LRnn FM CL</li> </ul>	•→
<b>N</b>	<b>SNOWBANKS ON A TAXIWAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (nil)</li> <li>• TWY n* SNOWBANKS</li> <li>• TWYS n*/n*/n*/... SNOWBANKS</li> <li>• ALL TWYS SNOWBANKS</li> </ul> <p>* A word of up to 10 characters</p>	•→
<b>O</b>	<b>SNOWBANKS ADJACENT TO THE RUNWAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (nil)</li> <li>• RWY nn ADJ SNOWBANKS</li> <li>• RWY nnL ADJ SNOWBANKS</li> <li>• RWY nnC ADJ SNOWBANKS</li> <li>• RWY nnR ADJ SNOWBANKS</li> </ul>	•→
<b>P</b>	<b>TAXIWAY CONDITIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (nil)</li> <li>• TWY n* POOR</li> <li>• TWYS n*/n*/... POOR</li> <li>• ALL TWYS POOR</li> </ul> <p>* A word of up to 10 characters</p>	•→
<b>R</b>	<b>APRON CONDITIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (nil)</li> <li>• APRON POOR (CH specification)</li> <li>• APRON n* POOR</li> <li>• APRONS n*/n*/... POOR</li> <li>• ALL APRONS POOR</li> </ul> <p>* A word of up to 10 characters</p>	•→
<b>S</b>	<b>MEASURED FRICTION COEFFICIENT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (nil)</li> </ul>	•→
<b>T</b>	<b>PLAIN-LANGUAGE REMARKS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (nil)</li> <li>• A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z</li> <li>0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 / (oblique stroke) . (period) (space)</li> </ul>	•
			)
AFTN ending (ICAO Annex 10 Vol. II)			

**RCR rules*****RCR 6/6/6 corresponding to the former "Normal Conditions"***

- Only for RCR with RWYCC 6/6/6 (Item D) and aiming to announce "Normal Conditions", the example hereafter must be followed.

SWLS0001 LSGG 04071200  
 (SNOWTAM 0001  
 LSGG  
**04071200 04 6/6/6 NR/NR/NR NR/NR/NR DRY/DRY/DRY**

)

SNOWTAM number	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SNOWTAM number is assigned by the SNOWTAM publication system and therefore may differ from the RCR number.</li> </ul>
Item A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mandatory field.</li> <li>A-Z, always 4 characters, must be a Location Indicator listed in the AIP Switzerland.</li> <li>When reporting on more than one runway, repeat Items B to H (aeroplane performance calculation section).</li> </ul>
Item B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mandatory field.</li> <li>Date and time not in the future.</li> </ul>
Item C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mandatory field.</li> <li>01-18 only numbers allowed.</li> </ul>
Item D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mandatory field.</li> <li>Empty third is not allowed.</li> </ul>
Item E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mandatory field.</li> <li>Empty third is not allowed.</li> </ul>
Item F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mandatory field.</li> <li>Empty third is not allowed.</li> </ul>
Item G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mandatory field.</li> <li>Empty third is not allowed.</li> </ul>
Item H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insert the width in meters (without units of measurement), if it is less than the published runway width. e.g. 35. Format 0-99.</li> </ul>

Item T	<p>Item T should only be used to indicate Upgrading and Downgrading of the RWYCC or for exceptional cases. When Upgrading and/or Downgrading is indicated, this shall be the first piece of information in this Item.</p> <p>An exceptional case acceptable for Item T is information on de-iced runway sections. The following text is to be used: DEICED RWY WIDTH [X]M.</p> <p>For partial runway de-icing, the RWYCC of the entire runway width shall be indicated, i.e. not only for the de-iced portion. Or, in order to specify the RWYCC for the de-iced portion only, the runway width must be reduced and specified under Item H.</p> <p>For more details refer to FOCA Directive AD I-008.</p>
--------	---

## AFTN text line length (69 characters) and alignment function (CR LF)

### General information

If a text line needs to be broken to fulfil the AFTN recommendation of maximum 69 characters per text line, a word must never be "broken".

### ICAO Annex 10 Volume 2

<i>Message part</i>	<i>Component of the message part</i>	<i>Elements of the component</i>
<b>TEXT</b> (see 4.4.15.3)	Message Text	Message Text with one CARRIAGE RETURN, one LINE FEED at the end of each printed line of the Text except for the last one (see 4.4.15.3.6)

Figure 4-4. Message format International Alphabet No. 5 (IA-5)  
(the above illustrates the teletypewriter message format described in 4.4.15)

4.4.15.3.6 An alignment function shall be transmitted at the end of each printed line of the text. When it is desired to confirm a portion of the text of a message in teletypewriter operation, such confirmation shall be separated from the last text group by an alignment function [ $\leq$ ], and shall be indicated by the abbreviation CFM followed by the portion being confirmed.

### ICAO Annex 10 Volume 3

#### CHAPTER 8. AFTN NETWORK

#### 8.2 TECHNICAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO TELETYPEWRITER APPARATUS AND CIRCUITS USED IN THE AFTN

8.2.5 Recommendation.— *The number of characters which the textual line of the page-printing apparatus may contain should be fixed at 69.*

### Addressing rules for RCR

The following addressing rule is prescribed to support compliance with AMC1 ADR.OPS.A.065(a), taking into account that Situational Awareness information is also relevant for dissemination by SNOWTAM. As no SNOWTAM CNL message is available, it also ensures that SNOWTAM are updated as conditions improve.

1) In the following cases, the RCR should be addressed to **both AIS and ATS**:

- a) one or more of the condition descriptions (Item G) is other than WET or DRY; or
- b) one or more of Items I to T is reported; or
- c) the previous RCR was addressed to AIS within the previous 8 hours.

2) In all other cases, the RCR should be addressed to **ATS only**.

### References

#### AMC1 ADR.OPS.A.065(a) Reporting of the runway surface condition

##### REPORTING

The aerodrome operator should disseminate an RCR through the aeronautical information services and air traffic services, when the runway is wholly or partly contaminated by standing water, snow, slush, ice or frost, or is wet associated with the clearing or treatment of snow, slush, ice or frost. When the runway is wet, not associated with the presence of standing water, snow, slush, ice or frost, the assessed information should be disseminated using the RCR through the air traffic service

#### **GM4 ADR.OPS.A.065(a) Reporting of runway surface condition**

##### **REPORTING BY AERODROMES WITH MULTIPLE RUNWAYS**

On aerodromes with multiple runways, SNOWTAM should include all the runways, in case that at least one runway is contaminated. This improves pilots' situational awareness and support their decision on the selection of the landing/take-off runway.

#### **Helpful information for completing the RCR and managing SNOWTAM**

- Water of 3 mm or less is reported as WET, greater depths are reported as STANDING WATER.
- Consider the relationship between contaminant and runway condition code.
- Consider the relationship between the contaminant type and the minimum value (depth) to be reported.
- For more details refer to FOCA Directive AD I-008 including the Runway Condition Assessment Matrix (RCAM).
- A SNOWTAM has a fixed validity of 8 hours, cannot be cancelled, but is replaced by a subsequent SNOWTAM. Therefore, once a SNOWTAM chain has been triggered (by dissemination to AIS - see addressing rules for RCR), subsequent updates will also have to be disseminated to AIS to ensure that the SNOWTAM in circulation is appropriately updated, including when conditions return to normal. Stable SNOWTAM conditions lasting longer than 8 hours will also require a new SNOWTAM.

##### **Example n°1 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0001 LSGG 04071200  
(SNOWTAM 0001  
LSGG  
04071200 04 5/5/5 100/100/100 NR/NR/NR WET/WET/WET  
)

##### **Example n°2 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0001 LSGG 04071200  
(SNOWTAM 0001  
LSGG  
04071200 04 5/5/5 100/100/100 NR/NR/NR WET/WET/WET  
  
RWY 04 CHEMICALLY TREATED. DEICED RWY WIDTH 30M.)

##### **Example n°3 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0001 LSGG 04071200  
(SNOWTAM 0001  
LSGG  
04071200 04 5/5/5 100/100/100 NR/NR/NR WET/WET/WET  
  
RWY 04 CHEMICALLY TREATED. ALL APRONS POOR. DEICED RWY WIDTH 30M.)

##### **Example n°4 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0001 LSGG 04071200  
(SNOWTAM 0001  
LSGG  
04071200 04 5/5/3 100/100/100 03/03/04 WET SNOW/SLUSH/WET SNOW  
  
RWY 04 CHEMICALLY TREATED. TWYS A/C/D/E/F/G POOR. APRON SOUTH POOR.)

**Example n°5 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0001 LSGG 04071200  
(SNOWTAM 0001  
LSGG  
04071200 04 6/6/6 NR/NR/NR NR/NR/NR DRY/DRY/DRY

TWY E SNOWBANKS.)

**Example n°6 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0001 LSGG 04071200  
(SNOWTAM 0001  
LSGG  
04071200 04 5/5/3 100/100/100 03/03/04 DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW

RWY 04 DRIFTING SNOW.)

**Example n°7 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0001 LSGG 04071200  
(SNOWTAM 0001  
LSGG  
04071200 04 1/1/1 100/100/100 NR/NR/NR ICE/ICE/ICE

ALL TWYS POOR. ALL APRONS POOR.)

**Example n°8 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0001 LSGG 04071200  
(SNOWTAM 0001  
LSGG  
04071200 04 3/5/2 100/100/100 NR/03/04 SLIPPERY WET/SLUSH/SLUSH 40

RWY 04 CHEMICALLY TREATED. TWYS D/E/Y/Z POOR. ALL APRONS POOR.)

**Example n°9 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0001 LSGG 04071200  
(SNOWTAM 0001  
LSGG  
04071200 04 3/6/1 75/25/50 05/04/NR WET SNOW/SLUSH/ICE 40

RWY 04 LDA REDUCED TO 3000. RWY 04 SNOWBANK LR20 FM CL. TWYS D/E SNOWBANKS.  
RWY 04 ADJ SNOWBANKS. ALL TWYS POOR. APRON SOUTH POOR.)

**Example n°10 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0001 LSGG 04071200  
(SNOWTAM 0001  
LSGG  
04071200 04 3/6/3 50/25/75 NR/NR/NR WET SNOW ON TOP OF COMPACTED SNOW/WET SNOW  
ON TOP OF COMPACTED SNOW/WET SNOW ON TOP OF COMPACTED SNOW 40

RWY 04 LDA REDUCED TO 2500. RWY 04 DRIFTING SNOW. RWY 04 CHEMICALLY TREATED.  
RWY 04 SNOWBANK LR35 FM CL. TWY D SNOWBANKS. RWY 04 ADJ SNOWBANKS. ALL TWYS  
POOR. ALL APRONS POOR.)

**Example n°11 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0001 LSGG 04071200  
(SNOWTAM 0001  
LSGG

04071200 04 5/5/5 100/100/100 03/03/NR DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW/FROST 30

RWY 04 LDA REDUCED TO 3000. RWY 04 DRIFTING SNOW. RWY 04 LOOSE SAND. RWY 04 CHEMICALLY TREATED. RWY 04 SNOWBANK L25 FM CL. RWY 04 SNOWBANK R30 FM CL. TWYS D/E/F/Y/Z SNOWBANKS. RWY 04 ADJ SNOWBANKS. TWYS A/B/C/D/E/F/W/Y/Z POOR. APRON NORTH POOR.)

**Example n°12 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0001 LSZH 01020700  
(SNOWTAM 0001  
LSZH

01020545 10 3/3/5 75/75/100 05/05/03 DRY SNOW/WET SNOW/WET SNOW

01020615 14 3/3/3 100/100/100 05/05/05 DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW

01020700 16 3/3/0 100/100/100 05/05/NR DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW ON TOP OF ICE

RWY 10 DRIFTING SNOW. RWY 14 DRIFTING SNOW. RWY 16 DRIFTING SNOW. ALL TWYS POOR. ALL APRONS POOR.)

**Example n°13 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0002 LSZH 11131725  
(SNOWTAM 0002  
LSZH

11131625 10 3/3/3 100/100/100 06/06/06 WET SNOW/WET SNOW/WET SNOW

11131310 14 3/3/3 100/100/100 10/10/10 WET SNOW/WET SNOW/WET SNOW

11131725 16 5/5/5 100/100/100 03/03/03 WET SNOW/WET SNOW/WET SNOW 45

RWY 16 CHEMICALLY TREATED. TWYS Y/Z/M/R POOR.)

**Example n°14 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0003 LSZH 02201310  
(SNOWTAM 0003  
LSZH

02201200 10 6/6/6 NR/NR/NR NR/NR/NR DRY/DRY/DRY

02201230 14 6/6/6 NR/NR/NR NR/NR/NR DRY/DRY/DRY

02201310 16 6/6/6 NR/NR/NR NR/NR/NR DRY/DRY/DRY

)

**Example n°15 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0004 LSZH 11131725  
(SNOWTAM 0004  
LSZH

11131625 10 3/3/3 100/100/100 06/06/06 WET SNOW/WET SNOW/WET SNOW

11131310 14 3/3/3 100/100/100 10/10/10 WET SNOW/WET SNOW/WET SNOW

11131725 16 5/5/5 100/100/100 03/03/03 WET SNOW/WET SNOW/WET SNOW 45

RWY 16 CHEMICALLY TREATED. TWYS Y/Z/M/R POOR.)



**Example n°16 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0005 LSZH 11132230  
(SNOWTAM 0005  
LSZH

11132000 10 1/1/1 75/75/75 06/06/06 DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW 45  
11132100 14 5/5/5 50/50/50 03/03/03 DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW 45  
11132230 16 5/5/6 50/50/25 03/03/03 DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW 45

ALL TWYS POOR. ALL APRONS POOR. RWY 10 DOWNGRADED FROM RWYCC 3/3/3.)

**Example n°17 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0006 LSZH 08311200  
(SNOWTAM 0006  
LSZH

08311200 10 2/2/2 50/100/50 06/06/06 STANDING WATER/STANDING WATER/STANDING WATER  
08311200 14 2/2/2 50/50/50 06/06/06 STANDING WATER/STANDING WATER/STANDING WATER  
08311200 16 2/2/2 50/100/100 06/06/06 STANDING WATER/STANDING WATER/STANDING  
WATER

)

**Example n°18 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0007 LSZH 12311200  
(SNOWTAM 0007  
LSZH

12311200 10 2/2/2 50/100/50 06/06/06 SLUSH/SLUSH/SLUSH 45  
12311200 14 2/2/2 50/50/50 06/06/06 SLUSH/SLUSH/SLUSH 45  
12311200 16 2/2/2 50/100/100 06/06/06 SLUSH/SLUSH/SLUSH 45

TWYS INNER/M SNOWBANKS. ALL TWYS POOR.)

**Example n°19 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0016 LSZH 11111210  
(SNOWTAM 0016  
LSZH

11111005 10 5/5/5 100/100/100 NR/NR/NR WET/WET/WET 45  
11111115 14 3/3/3 100/100/100 05/10/24 DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW/DRY SNOW 45  
11111210 16 3/3/3 75/100/100 NR/NR/NR ICE/ICE/ICE

RWY 10 CHEMICALLY TREATED. RWY 14 CHEMICALLY TREATED. TWY INNER SNOWBANKS.  
ALL TWYS POOR. ALL APRONS POOR. RWY 16 UPGRADED FROM RWYCC 1/1/1.)

**Example n°20 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0001 LSZB 02100532  
(SNOWTAM 0001  
LSZB

02100532 14 5/5/5 100/100/100 03/03/03 WET SNOW/WET SNOW/WET SNOW

ALL TWYS POOR. ALL APRONS POOR.)

**Example n°21 "Swiss RCR"**

SWLS0001 LSZB 01250819  
(SNOWTAM 0001  
LSZB

01250819 14 5/5/5 50/50/50 03/03/03 SLUSH/SLUSH/SLUSH

RWY 14 SNOWBANK LR75 FM CL. ALL TWYS SNOWBANKS. ALL TWYS POOR. ALL APRONS  
POOR.)