



# STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE\_OPS010

## Behaviour during Thunderstorms

| Version/Rev | Date       | Section | Amendment                           |
|-------------|------------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| V2          | 25.08.2025 | n/a     | Layout harmonised with SOP template |
|             |            |         |                                     |

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### PURPOSE

This SOP defines the required behaviour during thunderstorms to protect DHS staff from accidents and health hazards during ramp activities.

### OBJECTIVE

The objective of this SOP is to:

- ensure all staff follow safety rules during thunderstorms;
- minimise exposure to lightning, electric hazards and other weather-related risks;
- define restricted activities and safe zones during thunderstorms;
- ensure information flow between DHS and airport authorities regarding warnings and all-clear signals.

### APPLICATION

Operations department:

- Turnaround Coordinator
- Load Controller

Passenger Services:

- Boarding/Gate Agents

### ABBREVIATIONS & DEFINITIONS

**FBO** = Flughafenbenutzungsordnung (Airport Manual)



## PROCEDURE STEPS

| Step | Action   |
|------|--|
| 1.   | <b>Information &amp; Reporting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Follow the defined information and reporting channels from the airport (warnings, all-clear signals).</li><li>TRC informs DHS staff and third parties (visitors, external company employees).</li></ul>   |
| 2.   | <b>Planning &amp; Preparation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Take thunderstorm rules into account when scheduling activities in outdoor/exposed areas.</li><li>Postpone non-essential activities until the all-clear signal is given.</li></ul>   |
| 3.   | <b>Personal Protection Outdoors</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Avoid staying outdoors; seek shelter in buildings or vehicles.</li><li>Never be the highest point → avoid masts, towers, antennas, fences, metal constructions.</li><li>Maintain at least 0.5 m distance from others.</li><li>Never seek cover under aircraft wings.</li><li>Safe posture outdoors: feet closed, crouch, arms around knees. Never lie down flat.</li></ul> |
| 4.   | <b>Personal Protection in Vehicles</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Move vehicles to safe area or building if possible.</li><li>If not possible: stop in safe location, stay inside.</li><li>Minimise radio use, avoid antennas/cables.</li><li>Sit with arms close to body, avoid contact with metal parts (sit on hands).</li></ul>   |
| 5.   | <b>Restricted Use of Equipment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Do not use open/closed passenger stairs during thunderstorm.</li><li>Do not use handheld radios, mobile devices or mobile data equipment outdoors.</li></ul>  |

## SAFETY NOTES

- Follow airport instructions at all times (FBO).
- Do not resume ramp work until official all-clear is received.

## REFERENCE

DHS GOM, Chapter 3.3.3 – Thunderstorms and Lightning

DHS GOM, Chapter 3.3.3.1 – Work Instructions during Thunderstorms and Lightning

DHS GOM, Chapter 3.3.3.2 – Lightning Alert Callout

DHS GOM, Chapter 3.3.3.3 – Counting Method

## FOR FURTHER GUIDANCE

Airport Manual / Flughafenbenutzungsordnung (FBO) of the respective airport  
(e.g.– Lightning & Thunderstorm Procedures)