



# SMS SAFETY CENTRAL

## Creating a Positive Safety Culture



Clara Bennett  
Executive Director



Hannah Naveda  
Operations &  
Program Manager

Welcome to the **March 2026** issue of the BRAA SMS newsletter. This issue features highlights from this year's Safety Week, updates on various infrastructure projects and airport upgrades, as well as safety achievements. We're proud to share these developments with our Airport community.

UPGRADES  
AND  
UPDATES

pg.2

TENANTS  
SAFETY  
NEWS

pg.3

## The Importance of SMS Reporting

Following the Runway 5 Engineered Materials Arresting System (EMAS) incident on September 3, 2025, Airport Management utilized the Safety Management System (SMS) to document, manage, and learn from the event. SMS provides a structured, proactive approach that goes beyond basic reporting to support operational analysis and continuous improvement.

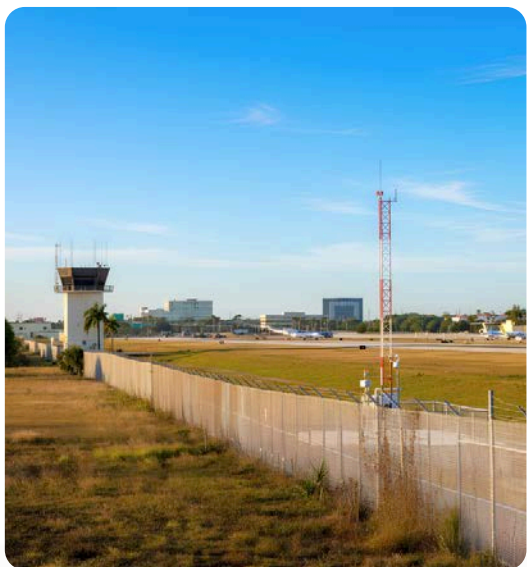
An internal SMS report was immediately initiated, capturing a complete timeline of the incident, including involved parties, police reports, damages, and supporting materials such as maps, photos, and video.

The incident caused significant EMAS damage, triggering both operational and maintenance responses. Through SMS, a work order was

created and linked directly to the initial report, ensuring full traceability from incident documentation to corrective action. This allowed the Airport to track labor, materials, and the full repair process—from cleanup to the installation of replacement EMAS blocks.

The 96-day repair concluded with system certification. Throughout, SMS enabled coordination, documentation, and performance tracking, ensuring transparency and accountability.

By integrating reporting, investigation, and corrective action, SMS strengthens the Airport's ability to identify risks, implement solutions, and enhance overall safety.



## AWOS Relocation Completed

The Boca Raton Airport has successfully completed the relocation and replacement of its Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS). Funded through federal and state support, the upgraded system delivers enhanced real-time reporting of wind, temperature, pressure, sky conditions, and precipitation to pilots and air traffic personnel. The AWOS was relocated to a ground-level site away from large structures to optimize data integrity and improve performance. The new system is now fully operational and providing more precise, reliable weather data to support daily flight operations.

## Airport Hosts FDOT Wildlife Training

Boca Raton Airport proudly hosted the first statewide Wildlife Hazard Management Training presented by the Florida Department of Transportation in partnership with USDA Wildlife Services. Attendees from airports across Florida participated in the no-cost program designed to strengthen general aviation airport preparedness for wildlife hazards that impact airfield safety. The full-day session covered the role of Wildlife Services, wildlife–aviation interactions, strike reporting, species behavior, and the factors contributing to airfield conflicts.



The afternoon featured hands-on demonstrations using pyrotechnic tools and observing trapping techniques to safely disperse or manage wildlife, giving staff practical familiarity with field equipment. While not a replacement for FAA-required Part 139 training, the program serves as an added layer of safety education. With two sessions planned annually, FDOT aims to expand the initiative statewide, and Boca Raton Airport was honored to host the inaugural training in support of Florida’s aviation community.



## Electrical Training Course

The Airfield Lighting Maintenance Seminar was a two-day learning experience, providing airport operations and maintenance teams with hands-on training in airfield lighting safety, troubleshooting, and system reliability. Participants covered CCR operations, series circuit fundamentals, REILs, PAPIs, signage, and LED technologies while strengthening their regulatory knowledge and response procedures. The seminar equipped attendees with the skills and confidence to keep lighting systems operating safely, efficiently, and in compliance.

## Drones At The Boca Raton Airport

Members of the operations team at the Boca Raton Airport have recently earned their FAA Part 107 remote pilot certification, becoming licensed drone pilots capable of safely operating unmanned aircraft systems. With certified operators on staff, the Airport can quickly identify and address safety concerns without disrupting daily operations. BRAA will soon acquire a drone to support runway and taxiway inspections, infrastructure monitoring, wildlife management, and emergency response with the goal of improving operational effectiveness.



## Pilots Meeting: TFRs

Boca Raton Airport recently hosted its Pilot Meeting in September of 2025, welcoming pilots, tenants, federal partners, and aviation professionals for a comprehensive discussion on Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs) ahead of the busy season. The event drew strong engagement, with 31 attendees in person and 91 additional viewers via YouTube livestream.

Presentations covered key aspects of TFR operations, including EMAS system performance,

FBO coordination, air traffic control procedures, and national security protocols. Representatives from Palm Beach TRACON and Tyndall Air Force Base shared insight into how TFRs are managed and enforced, while the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary highlighted its regional aviation mission. The meeting concluded with an overview of the Airport's coordinated TFR strategy to maintain safety and efficiency during peak periods.



Watch the Full Meeting



## REPORTING A HAZARD:

The Boca Raton Airport has established a streamlined safety hazard reporting process to ensure that everyone can contribute to maintaining our high safety standards. Our digital reporting form is a key component of our Safety Management System (SMS), making it easier than ever to report potential hazards or safety concerns.

### Using the form is straightforward:

1. Choose whether to report anonymously or provide your contact information.
2. Describe the safety concern or hazard in detail.
3. Provide any relevant additional information, such as location or time of observation.
4. Submit the form.

Our Airport Operations team reviews all submissions promptly, ensuring that each report is addressed appropriately.

### This reporting system is crucial for:

- Identifying potential hazards before they become incidents
- Encouraging a proactive safety culture among all Airport users
- Continuously improving our safety measures

Remember, safety is everyone's responsibility. Whether you're an employee, tenant, or visitor, your observations can make a significant difference in maintaining the highest level of safety at Boca Raton Airport.



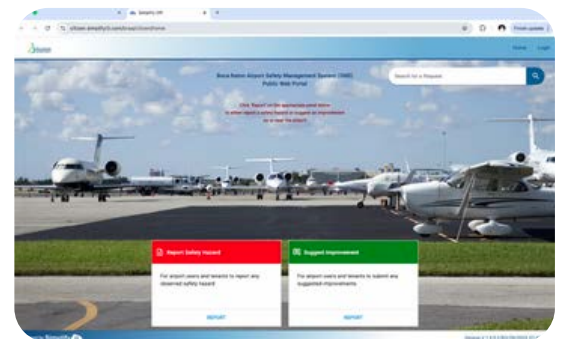
Your input helps us keep our newsletters relevant, helpful, and informative. Take a quick survey and be entered into a raffle to win a Boca Raton Airport engraved tumbler.

### ACCESS TO REPORTING PORTAL:



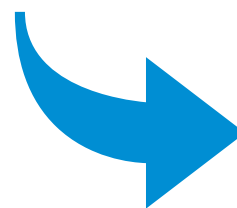
#### QR Code on Badges:

All Airport badges feature a QR code that links to our SMS portal. Scan the code with your phone to access the reporting form.



#### Website:

Visit our SMS page at: [bocaairport.com/safety-management-systems](https://bocaairport.com/safety-management-systems) to find the reporting form.



SCAN QR TO  
VISIT SMS PAGE

