

Pavement Classification Number (PCN)

PCN are reported as a five part code. Apart from the numerical value of the PCN, the report includes the pavement type (rigid or flexible) and the sub-grade support strength category. Provision is made in the report for the aerodrome authority to place a limit on maximum allowable tyre pressure, if this is a constraint, and an indication is required of whether the pavement has been evaluated by technical means or by past experience of aircraft use of the pavement.

Details of the coded format and an example are:

- PCN number
- Type of pavement
 - R = Rigid
 - F = Flexible
- Pavement sub-grade category
 - A = High
 - B = Medium
 - C = Low
 - D = Ultra-Low
- Maximum tyre pressure authorized for the pavement
 - W = High, no limit
 - X = Medium, limited to 217 psi
 - Y = Low, limited to 145 psi
 - Z = Very low, limited to 73 psi
- Pavement evaluation method
 - T = Technical evaluation
 - U = By experience of aircraft using the pavement

Example

If the bearing strength of a rigid pavement resting on a medium strength sub-grade has been assessed by a technical evaluation to be a PCN of 80 and there is no tyre pressure limit, then the reported information would be:

PCN: 80 / R / B / W / T

Operating procedure

Provided a pavement PCN is equal to or greater than the ACN of the aircraft unlimited use of the pavement is permitted.

Provided the PCN is smaller than the ACN the use of the pavement by an aircraft can only be undertaken when prior permission of the individual aerodrome authority is granted or by reduction of the aircraft load.