

FACT SHEET

YVR's Ground Run-Up Enclosure (GRE)

- Vancouver International Airport's Ground Run-up Enclosure (GRE) is the first facility of its kind in Canada
- The GRE is a three-sided, open-roofed enclosure designed to reduce aircraft noise from engine run-ups by absorbing and channeling sound up rather than out
- The GRE is 67 metres wide by 80 metres deep and roughly rectangular in shape.
- The enclosure's north and west walls stand 11 metres high and the south wall is 15 metres high to provide additional noise reduction for the closest neighbouring communities
- The walls are lined with approximately 2,000 sound-absorbing panels supported by an external frame; the walls are also perforated by several louvered vents to allow proper air flow and aerodynamic purposes
- More than 3,800 cubic metres of concrete were used to build the enclosure and adjoining apron
- Residents south of YVR will experience a 50 per cent reduction in engine run-up noise, as the facility is expected to reduce noise in some areas by approximately 15 decibels
- Adjacent to YVR's South Terminal, the location was selected to meet aeronautical zoning restrictions; ease of access by the main users; control tower sightlines; prevailing winds; and acoustic, economic and environmental benefits
- The primary users of the GRE will be Airport South maintenance operators testing propeller aircraft such as Beech 1900, Saab 340, Otter and Metroliners
- Propeller aircraft account for approximately 65 percent of the run-ups performed at YVR each year.
- The facility will be used for high power run-ups and will be the dedicated location during the night time hours.
- The GRE also has a built in glycol collection system to allow it use during winter de-icing operations at Airport South
- The Airport Authority has invested \$12 million in construction of the GRE as part of work included in the YVR Noise Management Plan
- An engine run-up refers to the testing of engines at various power settings to ensure all is in good working order. Transport Canada mandates engine run-ups every time an aircraft engine undergoes maintenance

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