FCU, FFL, UEL

Approach and/or RTILS Capacitor Discharge Flashing System

Compliance with S tandards

- ICAO: Annex 14, Vol. I, para. 5.3 (current edition)
- FAA: L-849 A/C/E as per AC-150/5345-51 E-2159, E-2325, E-2628, E-2689 for photometry only.
- NATO: STANAG 3316

Uses

Basically Aviation Ground Lighting flashing lights are landing aids for poor weather conditions. They are switched on when the effective range of steady burning approach lights at full intensity becomes insufficient to ensure adequate guidance. Since it may also be desirable to operate such systems under good visibility conditions, for instance to facilitate the location of the runway in urban areas, the use of a 3-level system avoids dazzling. Flashing lights may be used as:

- Sequenced flashing lights (SFL) in (non-) precision approaches,
- Runway threshold identification light systems (RTILS),
- The combination of the above SFL and RTIL systems
- To add a runway alignment segment to a medium-intensity approach lighting (system MALSR),
- · Lead-in (LDIN) approach lights (on request).

Features

- 400 V flashtube for improved overall security compared to 2 kV.
- Low mass elevated flash head incorporates triggering electronics for fault-free firing of flashtube.
- The Flashing Control Unit (FCU) exists in a FCU-1 and a FCU-3 version. The FCU-3 version houses three single FCUs in one common enclosure. User benefits:
 - Lower acquisition and installation costs
 - Perfect balancing of loads over the three phases
 - Easier to service
 - Improved safety due to fully protected cable runs
- New high-power-factor power supply yields lower power consumption, and eliminates peak inrush currents during capacitor charging phase. Smaller cross-section cables for input power are required.
- The FCU adjusts itself automatically to any input voltage from 190 to 260 V AC, 50 or 60 Hz. Available for single- or three-phase (3 or 4 wires) power supply.

Fig. 1 FCU-3, UEL and FFL



- Wiring between FCU and flash head uses standard, 4-core plus earth, low-voltage cable.
- Remote control and monitoring via single or dual field bus, 24 or 48 V multi-wire or a combination of both.
- Distance between FCU and flash head: 120 m and over without light output loss or misfiring. Required energy to reach specified light output is always guaranteed into the flashtube.
- Microprocessor-controlled design allows user-adjustable parameter setting and configuration, detailed individual status monitoring, software update via Flash EEPROM upload, (all optional) and condensation prevention.
- Lightning surge protection 6,5 kA 8/20 μ s included as standard. Extended protection up to 80 kA recommended for lightningsensitive areas available as an option.

Combines the best of two worlds: direct line coupled and capacitor discharge flashing systems.

General Description

The ADB Safegate low-voltage capacitor discharge flash light system consists of up to 32 flashing lights with individual control units. The fixtures are available as elevated and inset unidirectional applications.

All Flasher Control Units are electrically identical. They can be supplied as pole-mounted cabinets for each individual flashing head or – recommended – as 3-in-1 units to control three flashing lights from one cabinet only. In the latter case, the cabinets are mounted on a pedestal, offering the advantage of a most easy access for installation or servicing even as a complete mechanical protection of the in- and outgoing cables.

Thanks to the built-in compensation for the cable length, the FCU-3 cabinets can be placed outside the obstacle limitation area.

Electrical Equipment Description

The flashing control units are designed for the supply of 400 V DC flash tubes. The flash energy required for each of the 3 individually adjustable levels is stored in a capacitor.

The trigger electronics are located in the flashing light.

Any cabinet in the system can be designated as the Local Master Controller (LMC) by adding a Master PCB. The LMC assures the synchronization between the cabinets, incorporates the master for the local bus, and serves as interface between the flashing system and the control system. Via a standard PC and a dedicated "dongle"* (optional), most of the parameters as well as the system configuration can be optimized to the on-site conditions.



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The electrical connections between the substation and the FCUs and between each light fixture and its control cabinet use standard low voltage cabling. The latter connection can be up to 120 m without loss of light output.

Remote control is realized via multiwire, single or double field bus or any combination thereof. All cabinets are equipped with microprocessor controlled anti-condensation heating.

*Details on application

Electrical Supply

The system is powered either from a three-phase (3 or 4 wire) or a singlephase power system, providing a voltage between phases of 190 to 260 V 50/60 Hz.

In case FCU-3 control cabinets are used, the load balancing over the three phases is almost automatic.

As soon as power is applied, the wiring arrangement allows the anticondensation heater(s) to operate, even while the Flashing Light system is switched off.

Construction



Fig. 1 FCU-3



Fig. 2 FCU-1

Control cabinets (FCU-3 & FCU-1) (Fig. 1 & Fig. 2)

- 1. Sun protection
- 2. Cabinet
- 3. Pedestal for FCU-3 (not shown)
- 4. Flashing electronics (EMC only shown once)
- 5. Master PCB
- **6.** Space for additional surge protection (optional)
- 7. Terminal block
- **8.** Heater resistance(s) (not shown)
- 9. Micro switch
- 10. Mains fuses (not shown)



Fig. 3 Exploded View: UEL

Elevated lights (Fig. 3)

- 1. Lens/reflector seal
- 2. Lens
- 3. Reflector
- 4. Removable front housing, containing all optical components
- 5. Gasket
- 6. Low-voltage flash lamp with trigger transfo



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- **7.** Main housing with slip fitter, UV resistant plastic, containing trigger control circuit
- 8. Elevation adjustment screws
- 9. Bracing clamp with screw



Fig. 4 Exploded View: FFL

Inset flashing lights (Fig. 4)

- 1. High tensile screws
- 2. Aluminum alloy cover
- 3. O-ring gasket between cover and inner cover
- 4. Prism gasket
- 5. Prism
- 6. Flat seal
- 7. Prism clamp
- 8. Flashing lamp
- 9. Lamp holder
- 10. Trigger PCB
- 11. Aluminum alloy inner cover
- 12. O-ring gasket between light fitting and base
- **13.** Cable assembly with molded 5-pole plug
- 14. Pressure release screw

Configuration and Parameters

The flashing system may be used in any approach lighting configuration using up to 32 unidirectional flashing lights:

- to supplement steady burning, CAT. I, II or III ICAO approach systems (Fig. 5)
- to complete reduced steady burning patterns in FAA ASFL, SSALR (Fig. 6) or MALSR systems
- as runway threshold identification (RTILS or REILS) lights (Fig. 7) all or not in combination with sequenced flashing lights

Each flashing unit can be configured in hardware mode by means of dipswitches, indicating the position of the control unit in the system, and in the software mode.

The software configuration overrules the hardware configurations and allows adapting the system irrespective of the hardware address given to the FCU (dongle required).

Depending on the chosen remote control system, both the configuration and a vast number of available command parameters and status signals may be monitored and in case the one disposes over a "dongle" adapted to the customers' needs or whishes.







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Adjustment

For an easy aiming of the UEL approach flashing lights, the same device as developed for the steady burning approach lights can be used. The device, available as an electronic and as a simple mechanical unit, can be used for lights installed on frangible approach masts as well as for ground mounted or conduit mounted lights.

Installation

Flashing control units (Fig. 8 & Fig. 12)

Preferably the control units are installed outside the safety area. If installed inside, the installation needs to be frangible. In order to limit the effect of the jet blast, it is recommended to install the cabinets with their largest vertical surface parallel to the approach axis.

Flashing lights (Fig. 9 to 12)

The inset light can be mounted on an ADB Safegate 12" shallow base with 100 mm Ø central hole (Fig. 9), on a FAA L868-B deep base (Fig. 10), by means of a 12" to 16" adaptor ring on a deep FAA LB-4 base (Fig. 11). Bases need to be ordered separately. When installing the control units outside the safety area, the elevated flashing lights can be installed like any other steady burning approach light.

In case of pole-mounted, 1-in-1control cabinet in the approach, the elevated light can be installed on top of the pole supporting the individual control cabinet. In the latter case, all exposed cables need to be suitably protected.

(See Fig. 12 for typical installation).



Fig. 8 Typical installation of the FCU-3 with three flashing lights



Fig. 9 FFL Dimensions in mm



Fig. 10 FFL mounted on L-868B



Fig. 11 FFL mounted on a LB4



Fig. 12 Typical installation of FCU-1 cabinet



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Options

• Additional surge protection:

The standard control electronics are protected by MOV's against over voltages up to 6.5 kA 8/20 μ s. An optional protection for surges up to 80 kA 8/20 μ s is recommended for any lightning sensitive area.

• 230 V Mains socket outlet: FCU boxes can be supplied with built-in socket outlet to ease servicing activities in the field and at night.

Fig. 12 Typical installation of FCU-1 cabinet

Technical Data

Lamp specification

Xenon discharge lamp 60J-400V-3.600.000 flash min.

Electrical data

Supply voltages (1 ph or 3 ph):	190 to 260 V 50/60 Hz
Power consumption per FCU:	300 VA max
Over voltage / Lightning protection by means of	MOV 6.5 kA 8/20 µs (or optionally: 80 kA 8/20 µs surge arrestors)

Mechanical data

Degree of protection

Light fixture UEL, elevated:	IP 45
Inset light type FFL:	IP 67
3-in-1 cabinet:	IP 44
1-in-1 cabinet:	IP 44

Packaging Data

Туре	Weight (kg)		Individual packing	
	Net	Gross	Dimensions (mm)	
FCU-3	47	66	905 x 410 x 820	
FCU-1	18,5	37,5	905 x 410 x 820 (packed per 2)	
UEL with lamp	1,8	2,05	290 x 160 x 190	
FFL	7,5	7,8	305 x 305 x 125	



Fig. 13 Dimensions UEL in mm (see leaflet A.02.630)



Fig. 14 FCU-1 Dimensions in mm



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Photometric Performances

Fitting type	Fig	Intensity level	Min. effective intensity (cd) Beam spread		spread
				Horizon	Vert.
UEL (elevated)	15	Low Medium High	150 800 8000	+/-15°	10°
FFL (inset)	16	Low Medium High	150 500 5000	+/-15°	+2 to 12°







Fig. 16 Photometric curve inset flashing light FFL



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Ordering Code

Flashing Control Unit FCU: Number of Lights Controlled per Unit 1 = 1 light unit 3 = 3 light units	FCU 2 X X X X 0B000
Surge Protection S = Standard protection E = 80 kA protection	•
Mains Socket Outlet 0 = Without 1 = With	•
Bottom Plate 0 = Plain 1 = With cable entries	•
Local master controller (LMC): Remote Control	1LMC X X XXXX
Field bus (J-bus) 0 = No 1= Single J-bus 2 =Dual J-bus	•
Multi-wire 0 = No 1 = 24 V DC 2 = 48 V DC	•

Ordering Code

Elevated light fitting: Complete with trigger electronics and low voltage flashing lamp	1UF9C2Y00000
	1010010
Inset light fitting:	
low voltage flashing lamp without base	
iow voltage hashing lamp, without base	FFL9C0000000
Accessories	
12" shallow base for EEL inset flashing light	
including	
 M10 fixing screw kit 	
 core cable with factory molded 5-pole 	
receptacle with:	
 100 mm dia bottom hole 	MSBB59010003
 side entry via PG 3 	MSBB5A01000
(contact factory for special requirements)	
Adaptor ring for mounting of FFL inset	
flashing light on LB4 base, with metric fixing	
hardware	
 for 18 mm protrusion 	
 for 1/2 inch protrusion 	MARD5000003
(contact factory for special requirements)	MARE50000003
5-pole receptacle for connection to supply	
cable	
Dongle for on-site reconfiguration	
Aiming tool for elevated light with	4072.03.960
 clinometer using electronic sensors 	1444.00.010
 clinometer using spirit level 	
Shallow base installation jig	1570.05.400
sighting telescope for shallow base installation	15/0.05.410
JIG Manutine according for FCU 1 achieved	1411.19.260
Mounting accessories for FCU-1 cabinet	1411 10 251
(mounting pole & nange) Bettem plate with prefab cable entries for	1411.19.251
ECU 1 cabinot	1440 20 200
Junction box for FCII-1 cabinet	1440.20.200
	4072 01 530
	1440.20.100

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Product specifications may be subject to change, and specifications listed here are not binding. Confirm current specifications at time of order.