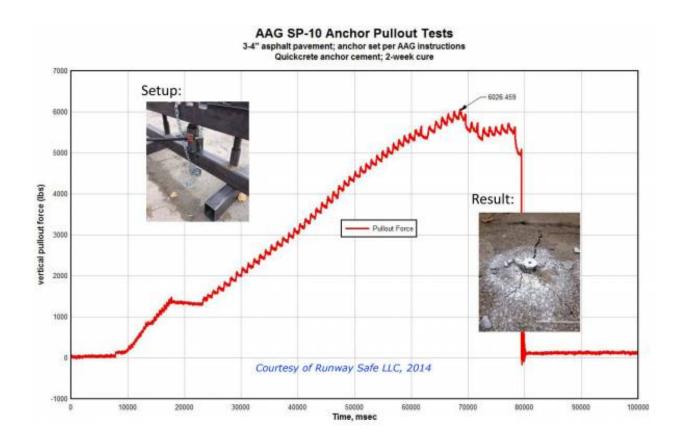
BOLTHOLD AN34 Anchors Trap Runaway Airplanes

We thought we were conservative when we rated our BoltHold asphalt anchors for pull resistance, but not that conservative. Runway Safe LLC of Texas has installed traps at the end of a couple runways at Midway in Chicago that will stop errant planes before they plow into a residential strip at the end of the runway. At the heart of the solution are our SP10 anchors that hold down the structure of this innovative (and FAA approved) system.

The designers of the system selected our smallest anchor (the SP10) to control the deceleration rate of the trapped plane. The anchors hold a field of 1 acre of light weight rocks that would slow the plane down as it plows through. To be effective, the anchors must withstand the pull forces created by jet blast from planes that take off on the cover that holds the rocks - a one acre sail, in effect.

To our surprise, the pull strength of the SP10 was measured at 6,000 lb -- 4 times the pull rating of 1,500 lb. that we specify. While impressive because it shows the integral strength of the anchor, we believe that these results are due to the 4" depth of the asphalt used in that runway. On weaker asphalt of parking lots (typically 2-3"), the results will be lower.



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