

SYMPOSIUM ON COMMERCIAL SPACEFLIGHT SAFETY ISSUES (D6)  
Commercial Space Flight Safety and Emerging Issues (1)

Author: Prof. Diane Howard  
McGill University, United States, diane.howard814@gmail.com

ONE OF THESE THINGS IS NOT LIKE THE OTHERS: RELATING ICAO ANNEX 14 TO  
SPACEPORTS

**Abstract**

Spaceports provide a wonderful example of a hybrid legal space at the junction of multiple overlapping legal communities. The intersections are many. First and foremost, there is the overlap between the legal regimes governing transport through air and through space, a connection made all the more significant by the nature of some of today's suborbital vehicles. The ICAO Annex 14 sets out the fundamental rules and requirements for Airport Design and Operations, which states undertake to apply through national laws. The paper, as contemplated, examines Annex 14 to reveal issues in active spaceports that are already covered by Annex 14 and enabling domestic legislation, as well as those issues that remain unaddressed and in need of an alternative normative framework.