

MEDIA RELEASE

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New online training platform to strengthen airport industry expertise

A new online training platform developed by the Australian Airports Association (AAA) will support the development of professional skills and expertise across the Australian airports sector.

The AAA's online education program has been developed with a particular focus on the training and development requirements of regional airport operators who have fewer staff and financial resources to devote to training and education programs.

'Our airports are a critical part of our national infrastructure, and the industry is leading the way in the development of relevant and accessible training programs that will further strengthen the skills and capabilities of our workforce,' said Caroline Wilkie, CEO of the AAA.

'We have worked very closely with airport operators to develop formal training programs relevant to their needs.

'In particular, these online programs will help smaller airport operators and staff in regional and remote areas have access to high quality training and education programs which otherwise would not be available to them.

'Airports and aviation are highly regulated, and it's essential that airport staff have the latest information and advice on how to meet their regulatory responsibilities and support the safe and efficient operation of airport facilities.

'Online delivery of training provides more flexible education opportunities for airport staff that suit their work schedules or on-airport commitments,' Ms. Wilkie said.

The first course to be offered through the new platform is an Aerodrome Reporting Officer (ARO) and Works Safety Officer (WSO) Refresher Course. The program is designed for ARO and WSO staff who have undertaken formal training or have on the job experience. It can also assist staff who may be starting work at an airport, or for local government officers who have airport management responsibilities.

The course includes six modules covering aviation legislation and aerodrome documentation through to airside safety, facilities, lighting and markings; airside driving and working around aircraft; wildlife hazard management; aerodrome emergency response and security; and, aerodrome serviceability inspection.

The AAA will introduce online training programs in Airside Safety and Wildlife Hazard Management during 2017. More information on the online training programs is available at www.airporteducation.asn.au

About the Australian Airports Association:

The Australian Airports Association has been representing airports across the country for the past 30 years. It represents 260 airport members, including all the capital city airports through to the small regional aerodromes of rural Australia. www.airports.asn.au

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Media Enquires: Caroline Wilkie, CEO, AAA
Contact: 02 6230 1110 or 0419 777 338 or cwilkie@airports.asn.au