

MEDIA RELEASE

2 May 2017

Airport Practice Note on Airfield Pavement Essentials

The Australian Airports Association (AAA) has issued an Airport Practice Note on Airfield Pavement Essentials to provide general guidance and information to airport managers and operators regarding airport pavement design, materials, construction, maintenance and rehabilitation. The paper was launched today at the Pavements and Lighting Forum in Sydney, which is being attended by over 200 delegates.

‘Airfield pavements are perhaps the most crucial part of any airport’s infrastructure. They form the runways, taxiways, aprons and parking areas that are essential for safely facilitating the millions of aircraft movements that occur at Australian airports every year,’ said Caroline Wilkie, CEO of the AAA.

‘Until now, unless you are part of the relatively small group of airfield pavement engineering specialists that have a wealth of knowledge on this particular issue, there has not been a central place where regional airport staff or a newcomer to the industry could look to for guidance.

‘To remedy this, the AAA commissioned the development of the Airfield Pavement Essentials Practice Note,’ Ms Wilkie said.

Ms Wilkie said the significant number of pavement projects underway at some of Australia’s major airports, including construction of a new parallel runway at Brisbane Airport, Melbourne Airport’s third runway, Perth Airport’s new runway and taxiway system, and the runway extension project at Hobart Airport, provided opportunities for further developing the industry’s knowledge and understanding of airfield pavements.

The paper aims to give those with an interest or responsibility for managing airfield pavements a better understanding of the concepts and important considerations involved by providing a detailed description on airport pavement history, materials, design, construction and maintenance.

The document also recognises the differences in pavement design methods used at some rural and remote airports, where alternative solutions can be more appropriate given the light aircraft and ground vehicles using the asset.

The AAA’s Airport Practice Note on Airfield Pavement Essentials is part of a series of publications designed to improve the professional knowledge and expertise of airport operators across a range of subject areas, particularly those in regional locations where expert resources are often not readily available.

The Airfield Pavement Essentials Practice Note has been prepared for the AAA by Dr Greg White (University of the Sunshine Coast). It is freely available to AAA members via the Member Centre portal.

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

<Ends>

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