

MEDIA RELEASE



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Australian airports encourage others to 'Walk in My Shoes'

Thousands of airport employees across the country will be joining forces to take part in the Australian Airport Association's (AAA) Airport Safety Week in October.

The annual safety campaign is a collaboration between the AAA and the NZ Airports Association and is specifically tailored to engage with employees and contractors working on an aerodrome.

This year's Airport Safety Week theme, '[Walk in My Shoes](#)', encourages members to experience airport life from a different point of view.

AAA Chief Executive Officer Caroline Wilkie said the message was clear: working together as a team and sharing your safety experiences is the best way to gain knowledge and create a safe working environment.

"It is important to recognise that every safety action has an impact on the whole airport, from airside, landside, or behind the scenes," Ms Wilkie said.

"This year's theme 'Walk in My Shoes' is a great opportunity for employees to visit parts of the airport they wouldn't usually see, or talk to staff working at the opposite end of the airport to discover more about the importance of safety planning and procedures.

"Airport Safety Week also provides an important message for the wider community and many airports will offer opportunities for visitors to get involved, such as open days and stalls.

"From regional airports to major airports, there is something for everyone, including technical webinars, tool box talks, event ideas and resources to download.

"With thousands of airport employees taking part last year, we can expect similar this year with lots of activity across the country this October."

A particular highlight of Airport Safety Week is the annual Foreign Object Debris (FOD) walk, which sees staff from across participating airports signing up to take part.

Participating airports can also enter the Airport Safety Week competition to win a FOD*BOSS sweeper valued at \$8000, courtesy of Aerosweep.

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Airport Safety Week takes place from 15-19 October. Key dates and themes for the week include:

- Monday 15 October – Promoting a Safety Culture
- Tuesday 16 October – Aerodrome Reporting Officers
- Wednesday 17 October – Foreign Object Debris (FOD)
- Thursday 18 October – Safety Management Systems (SMS)
- Friday 19 October – Ramp Safety and Ground Operations – A shared responsibility

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