

MEDIA RELEASE



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Australian and NZ airports join forces to 'Walk in My Shoes' for Airport Safety Week

Thousands of airport employees at more than 150 airports and aerodromes across Australia and New Zealand will take part in Airport Safety Week from today.

The partnership between the Australian Airports Association (AAA), NZ Airports Association and Civil Aviation Safety Authority will see airport staff join in a wide range of activities as they explore this year's theme of Walk in my Shoes.

AAA Chief Executive Officer Caroline Wilkie said the week encouraged staff to experience airport life from a different point of view.

"Whether they work on the airfield, in the terminal or the office, all airport employees have a critical safety role to play," Ms Wilkie said.

"Airport Safety Week gives people the chance to share information and innovative new ideas as part of a strong safety culture at their airport.

"There are some great events taking part across Australia and New Zealand to ensure staff and the community can learn more about how the many people working across our airports contribute to safety."

Australian airports will host a range of events to support the week, including 'walk in my shoes' sessions that look behind the scenes of a day in the life of airport staff.

Participants will find out how a wide range of roles contribute to safety, including biosecurity and customs officers, as well as aerodrome reporting officers.

Tours of the airfield, air traffic control towers and aviation rescue firefighting stations will also provide unique insights into the safe operation of an airport.

Airport Safety Week's highly anticipated Foreign Object Debris (FOD) walk takes place on Wednesday and is a particularly popular event for airports across the country.

Staff and, in some cases, invited members of the community will join forces to collect FOD from the airfield to highlight an important part of an airport's safety procedure.

Established in 2014, Airport Safety Week has grown each year to raise awareness of airport safety. Airport Safety Week takes place from 15-19 October.

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