

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Australian airports implement new CASA operating standards

The Australian Airports Association (AAA) says airports are ready to implement new Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) safety requirements which come into effect today.

“Australian airports are considered among the safest in the world and these new protocols will only enhance their safety record,” AAA Chief Executive James Goodwin said.

Despite COVID-19 placing a significant strain on the sector, the AAA and industry have spent more than four years working collaboratively with CASA to provide input into the review and drafting processes for the updated *Manual of Standards* Part 139, as well as keeping members actively informed and supported during the transition phase.

“The updates reflect changes in technology and operations and will ensure Australia is more aligned with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) standards,” Mr Goodwin said.

The AAA and its members have shown outstanding leadership to create and facilitate working groups to inform CASA’s key decision makers, hosted a joint Safety Forum with CASA and successfully advocated for an extension to support its members through the current COVID-19 pandemic.

“Australian airports were hit first and will be the last to recover from the coronavirus crisis. They’re doing it tough at the moment with very few passengers walking through the doors but it is important the sector has best practice standards, particularly when we reach the other side of the pandemic,” Mr Goodwin said.

### Changes at a glance:

- An additional colour for runway markings and markers to make it easier for pilots to navigate.
- Additional colour options for runway lighting to meet the current Australian Standards.
- New line marking which makes it clearer when an airfield is unserviceable.
- New risk-based CASA inspection and reporting requirements.

The new measures are detailed in CASA’s updated *Manual of Standards* Part 139 and can be viewed [here](#).

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