

MEDIA RELEASE

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Canberra Airport reveals strict measures aimed at maintaining safety and security during Airport Safety Week 2018

With safety and security a top concern among airport employees, Canberra Airport will host its fifth annual Airport Safety Week to help all airport employees experience firsthand the collaboration that supports the best safety outcomes and creates a strong culture of safety.

This year, Canberra Airport is sharing behind-the-scenes airport safety and security efforts during the week of October 15-19. This year's events will begin Monday, 15 October at 9:30 am at with a kick-off featuring Rachel Stephen-Smith, the ACT's Minister for Employment and Workplace Safety and will focus on the theme of "walk a day in my shoes." Events are designed to expose airport employees to safety procedures that may not be part of their job but are critically important for airport employees, passenger and aircraft safety.

The educational activities such as a foreign object debris walk that includes inspecting the airfield for debris that could potentially damage planes as well as a runway inspection to monitor the surface, lighting and navigation aids of runways and taxiways, both vital components to airport safety. Airport employees will also have opportunities to take part in tours with an Australian Border Force (ABF) officer and SNP Security officer to see how they keep Australia's borders and airports safe. Finally, employees will be able to take a Qantas hangar tour and a tour of Canberra Airport's Aviation Rescue Fire Fighting Services station to discover what it is like to be an aviation engineer and firefighter.

"We're getting a lot more understanding and buy-in from aviation industry participants—they're getting more involved from a safety aspect, and we're talking more about what our roles are and how we work together," says Gary McGivern, Canberra Airport's Manager, Airside Operations and chair of the AAA Airport Operations Safety Network Group. "There's good understanding, improved reporting and better sharing of practices and operating procedures all of which makes the airport a safer place to be."

Each year Airport Safety Week is conducted at airports across Australia to educate both employees and the public about many of the activities that airports implement to maintain the strict safety culture required at Australian airports.

While the general public will not be able to attend these sessions due to the sensitive nature of information, there are a few events that may be open to a small number of media representatives. For media enquiries, please email Kathleen Sweetapple at k.sweetapple@canberraairport.com.au

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