AAL SAFETY ALERT

Topic: Airside Foreign Object Debris (FOD)

Urgency: Green – please read and action as required
Date of Issue: 14 October 2026

Audience: ALL AIRPORT PRECINCT

Background

Foreign object debris (FOD) is any loose item or material in an airside area that could damage an aircraft, vehicle or equipment, or injure a person. Common examples include tools, hardware, packaging, cable ties, plastic, stones, baggage parts, documentation and waste. Even small items can be ingested into an engine, strike an aircraft or become airborne. This safety alert is a reminder to every one of the importance of managing the risk of FOD.

Action Required

Everyone across the airport must help to keep all airside areas and work sites free from FOD. Do not assume an item is too small to matter or that someone else will collect it. Landside rubbish and debris can easily become FOD too – so please action the below regardless of where you work. The key FOD prevention actions are:

- Keep work areas, vehicles and equipment tidy. Remove waste, tools and materials before leaving an area.
- Secure loads and loose items on vehicles, trailers, plant and equipment.
- If you see FOD, remove it when safe, then place it in an appropriate bin or collection point.
- Report FOD that cannot be safely removed, recurring issues, hazards, incidents or damage to the Airport Coordination Centre on 8154 9444. Never place yourself at risk to retrieve an item.

Thank you to everyone participating in the annual FOD walk. The walk is a point-in-time check; and effective FOD control depends on what we do every day.



Continue to report incidents, near misses, and hazards to the Adelaide Airport Coordination Centre on 8154 9444.

For any further clarification or WHS information, please contact James Smith at jsmith@aal.com.au