

11th Sept 2009



❖ NOTICE ❖

TO: VIRGIN MEMBERS

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RE: RAMP FUNCTIONS AND RELATED TRAINING

The ALAEA were informed by members today that Virgin intend to commence training of Ramp personal to carry out aircraft servicing functions such as aircraft arrivals and pushouts in Sydney from Monday next week. There is an expectation that Engineers will carry out the appropriate training for these people including a competency assessment. Our members have expressed to the ALAEA that they have a concern of a risk to their occupational health and safety if the training proceeds and is to be carried out by persons who are not Licenced and not holding the appropriate level of workplace training competency such as Cert IV (AQF4) Workplace Trainer and Assessor.

LAMEs and AMEs who are not qualified (hold CertIV) and currently employed to carry out training and assessment of staff for this role should not participate in any instruction function of Ramp staff for aircraft servicing. The appropriate level of competence for a person to conduct aircraft maintenance including servicing is at least AME (AQF3 or 4).

The ALAEA currently has an Enterprise Agreement claim sitting with the company for the retention of all existing Engineering and Maintenance functions. It appears that Virgin is intent on delaying negotiations and removing Engineers from as many roles as possible prior to any resolution to the wage negotiations. The ALAEA claim for the retention of our jobs was lodged on 1 September 2009 and the company are well aware that this matter and the associated job security is one of the key aspects facing our members today.

On another note we are pleased to announce that John Mafriaci from Sydney has been appointed as an ALAEA Representative. John has a long association with the ALAEA being a former Federal Executive member in the 80's and 90's. He will join and assist Mike Watson dealing with the growing number of matters that we face today.

The ALAEA currently has an active and sizeable workplace agreement wage negotiation committee and it is ultimately planned that a number of the committee members will make the transition to full ALAEA Reps in the near future.

STEVE PURVINAS
Federal Secretary

"To undertake supervise and certify for the safety of all who fly."