transport workers' union
AVIATION

October 2026

Our application for Swissport workers to be reimbursed for safety boots.

The TWU has applied to the NSW Industrial Relations Commission seeking orders that Swissport reimburse workers who have been forced to pay for their own mandatory safety boots.

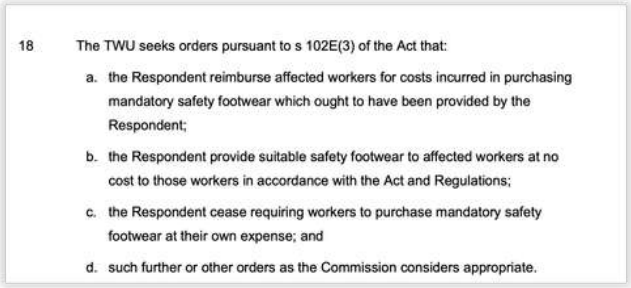
Swissport workers have been required to purchase & replace their own safety footwear, despite safety boots being mandatory PPE.

Workers should never have been left out of pocket for equipment that should have been provided by the company.

Earlier this year, SafeWork NSW issued an Improvement Notice requiring Swissport to provide appropriate safety footwear to workers.

The TWU is asking the Commission to order that Swissport:

1. Reimburse affected workers for the cost of purchasing mandatory safety boots that should have been provided by the company.
2. Provide suitable safety footwear to workers at no cost.
3. Stop requiring workers to purchase mandatory safety footwear at their own expense.



18 The TWU seeks orders pursuant to s 102E(3) of the Act that:

a. the Respondent reimburse affected workers for costs incurred in purchasing mandatory safety footwear which ought to have been provided by the Respondent;

b. the Respondent provide suitable safety footwear to affected workers at no cost to those workers in accordance with the Act and Regulations;

c. the Respondent cease requiring workers to purchase mandatory safety footwear at their own expense; and

d. such further or other orders as the Commission considers appropriate.

Workers should not have to pay for mandatory PPE out of their own pocket.

Keep an eye out for further updates as this matter progresses through the Commission.

JOIN THE TWU. FIGHT BACK.

These fights are possible because hundreds and hundreds of workers have already joined.
Let's make this fight for change even stronger.

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