# SWISSPORT WORKERS REVEAL SAFETY CONCERNS



A survey of 165 Swissport workers has shed light on significant concerns around safety and understaffing, and revealed that many would consider leaving aviation if the industry doesn't improve.

### LOSS OF EXPERIENCE



**76%** 

are considering leaving the industry if things don't improve



67%

are concerned about inexperience from high staff turnover

have worked in aviation for under two years

- Swissport is **haemorrhaging staff** faster than they can replace them. It is a **toxic work environment** and we are not fairly looked after.
- Staff are rushed through training in the shortest time possible, without even being given time to settle in to the job and learn the ropes properly.
- I have to **work overtime** because there aren't enough skilled staff to stay back

## UNDERSTAFFING AND FATIGUE



81%

95%

62%

are sta

concerned there are not enough staff

have experienced fatigue at work

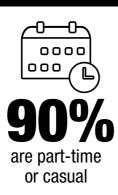
have been so fatigued they've worried about a safety incident occurring

Working 12+ hours a day multiple days in a row with a bare minimum crew is extremely fatiguing.

- When I started I was expected to work 10 hour shifts, 6 days a week, with no breaks. I had to work alone loading 350-400 bag international flights in a poorly ventilated, freezing bagroom. I worked through illness, told management and they did not care.
- Always being tired has led to me missing information on bags, radio callouts, scanning of restricted arrival bags and driving incidents.
- I was once made to put stairs on a plane when I was **really fatigued and stressed** about a tight turnaround. I was told the stairs needed readjusting and because I was tired and stressed I forgot to check if the passenger door was open.

#### **LOW PAY AND JOB SECURITY**



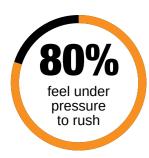




Not being rostered enough hours so you have to pick up more shifts and end up working 6+ days

- I'm getting out of the industry because the pay is insufficient for what we do
- We work like dogs but **get paid bugger all**
- Working 4am shifts is brutal for the amount extra we get for it
- Inconsistent hours, some weeks I get 30-40 then other weeks I get 15-20

### PRESSURE TO RUSH



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- They say "don't rush" then come at you aggressively over **every single minute of delay**, even if it's one minute, and you're doing it with garbage equipment and short staff.
- Getting assigned **multiple flights** at the same time with not even 5 minutes in between and still being expected to get it out on time.
- We are told to take our time but when it comes down to it we get in trouble for taking our time if it causes a delay.

#### **SAFETY CONCERNS**

#### DANGER TO WORKERS



41%

have been injured at work



71%

have witnessed a safety incident



Only

receive training on new safety procedures



44%

say they find out about safety procedures from other workers

- I had my **leg split open** and got told to **get back out and work** even though I was bleeding.
- **[Engine] ingestion** near miss.
- Our manager turned a **belt loader** on while one of us was still on it. When we did a safety report, **the manager deleted it.**
- I don't know how they expect people to drive airside safely after only 4 hours of training.
- Most of the time management will tell the group of employees on shift when a procedure change occurs and expect that information to be relayed to everyone with no formal notice.
- Accidents are going unreported due to a known lack of response from management as they can't afford to lose more staff.

### **UNSAFE EQUIPMENT**

- **f** I crashed into a brick wall when a baggage tug's **brakes failed**
- We have so many conveyors, tugs etc. **out of service for months** but no one has done anything about it. So we have to keep using the ones that just barely work, if that.
- A chain of 5 dollies each weighing 650+ kg detached from the towing tug at high speed on bay and coming within meters of colliding with people on the ground and aircraft
- Containers falling on ground due to **faulty equipment** which is not serviced to a sufficient standard is common



**75**%

are concerned about old equipment