



For Immediate Release
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John Glenn International becomes first Columbus facility to achieve Global Cleanliness Accreditation

COLUMBUS, OH – John Glenn Columbus International Airport (CMH) has become the first facility in Columbus, and one of the first airports in the world, to earn the GBAC STAR™ facility accreditation from The Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC).

GBAC STAR™ is the cleaning industry's gold standard of safe facilities, providing third-party validation that facilities implement strict protocols for biorisk situations. GBAC STAR™ is the only outbreak prevention, response and recovery accreditation for facilities.

"Whether departing Columbus for their favorite destination, or returning home, passengers can travel with confidence knowing our airport is achieving the highest standard in cleanliness," said Joseph R. Nardone, President & CEO for the Columbus Regional Airport Authority (CRAA). "Through pursuing the GBAC STAR™ accreditation, we were able to increase our efforts to combat viruses, and confirm our existing methods were meeting best practices."

Experience Columbus led a collaborative, citywide effort to encourage [Live Forward Pledge partners](#) in the transportation, events, lodging, and attractions sectors to seek GBAC STAR™ accreditation. Several of the city's primary visitor touchpoints have also committed to pursuing the accreditation.

"John Glenn Columbus International Airport is an incredible asset to our community, and being the first Columbus entity to receive GBAC STAR™ accreditation is just one example of the great work their team has been doing to keep the those who continue to travel safe throughout COVID-19," said Brian Ross, president and CEO of Experience Columbus. "This third-party validation is a level-up opportunity of our Live Forward pledge and we're proud of their steadfast commitment to the health and safety of residents and visitors alike."

The GBAC STAR™ accreditation process requires facilities to comply with the program's 20 elements, which range from risk assessment and mitigation strategies to personal protective equipment and infectious disease prevention practices.

"While nearly every organization can claim that they've improved their approach to cleaning in the wake of the pandemic, those that have earned GBAC STAR™ accreditation have the added credibility of independent validation," said ISSA Executive Director John Barrett. "GBAC's experts review each facility's plans for cleaning, disinfection, and infection prevention to ensure the approach is effective and sustainable."

Enhanced cleaning and sanitization protocols is one of many ways CRAA is helping passengers travel with confidence through its airports. To learn more about what to expect during your next visit, head to flycolumbus.com/updates2020.

About CRAA

The [Columbus Regional Airport Authority](#) connects Ohio with the world by managing and operating passenger-focused [John Glenn Columbus International Airport \(CMH\)](#), cargo-focused [Rickenbacker International Airport \(LCK\)](#), and general aviation airport Bolton Field (TZR). To learn more about CRAA's response to COVID-19, visit: flycolumbus.com/updates2020

About GBAC, a Division of ISSA

Composed of international leaders in the field of microbial-pathogenic threat analysis, mitigation, response, and recovery, the Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC), a Division of the International Sanitary Supply Association (ISSA), provides training, guidance, accreditation, certification, crisis management assistance, and leadership to government, commercial and private entities looking to mitigate, quickly address, and/or recover from biological threats and real-time crises.

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