



For Immediate Release
February 24, 2021

New Rickenbacker pharmaceutical facility gains traction with JobsOhio support

COLUMBUS, OH – The Columbus Regional Airport Authority (CRAA) today announced plans to develop a new air cargo pharmaceutical handling facility at Rickenbacker International Airport (LCK). The roughly \$1.5 million project is being assisted with a \$600,000 JobsOhio grant as part of the Ohio Site Inventory Program.

“With the addition of this specialized product handling capability, we are diversifying our growing portfolio of services and further establishing Rickenbacker International Airport as a global gateway,” said Joseph R. Nardone, President & CEO of CRAA. “We are grateful to JobsOhio and One Columbus for the support, and for recognizing Rickenbacker’s pharmaceutical handling facility as an asset that will contribute to the long-term prosperity of our region and state.”

“Rickenbacker International Airport’s new pharmaceutical handling facility will play a critical role in bolstering the U.S. supply chain,” said J.P. Nauseef, JobsOhio president and CEO. “The newly renovated air cargo terminal space will include the latest advancements in cold-storage technology that are essential to distributing vaccines, ensuring Rickenbacker will continue to be a global asset to the Columbus Region.”

The grant will help support the redevelopment of existing air cargo terminal space into a temperature-controlled pharmaceutical handling facility serving partner airlines, forwarders and pharma customers. Located at Air Cargo Terminal 1 (7200 Alum Creek Drive), the 9,600 square foot warehouse will be the first dedicated handling facility for temperature-controlled pharmaceutical air cargo shipments in Ohio.

The facility will have the capabilities to handle pharmaceutical and life-sciences products like vaccines and therapeutics that require cold storage. The demand for these types of facilities has been steadily on the rise as drug companies develop diverse new treatments.

The new facility further enhances Rickenbacker’s reputation as a premier cargo airport, which already boasts unrivaled handling of general cargo commodities (fashion, retail, textiles, electronics, automobile parts, etc.) as well as live animal handling.

The facility will include:

- Acceptance, holding and processing zone kept at controlled room temperature (CRT) of 15-25°C (59-77°F)
- A cold storage zone kept at 2-8°C (35-46°F)
- Office and support area, including space for US Customs and FDA operations

The new facility is expected to open in the third quarter of 2021. The project is open to construction bids at [ColumbusAirports.com](https://www.columbusairports.com).

About Rickenbacker International Airport

The [Columbus Regional Airport Authority](https://www.columbusairports.com) connects Ohio with the world by managing and operating passenger-focused [John Glenn Columbus International Airport \(CMH\)](https://www.columbusairports.com), cargo-focused [Rickenbacker International Airport \(LCK\)](https://www.columbusairports.com), and general aviation airport Bolton Field (TZR). Rickenbacker International Airport supports the world’s largest aircraft, yet it offers a wide range of scalable services for all aircraft

types, including corporate, general aviation, commercial, air freight and military. Rickenbacker International Airport is strategically located within a 10-hour drive of half the US and a third of Canadian populations, offering a regional geographic advantage.

About JobsOhio

JobsOhio is a private nonprofit corporation designed to drive job creation and new capital investment in Ohio through business attraction, retention and expansion efforts. The Ohio Site Inventory Program (OSIP) offers grants and low-interest loans to support speculative site and building development projects with no identified end user. The primary goal of OSIP is to fill gaps in Ohio's real estate inventory with real estate targeting near-term sector wins to ensure our state is more competitive for reactive site selection projects. Visit jobsohio.com/osip to learn more.

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