

Mineta San José is First California Airport to Earn Global Star Rating

SJC Accredited with GBAC Star™ for Commitment to Cleanliness and Safety

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San José, CA – [Mineta San José International Airport \(SJC\)](#) is the first California airport to earn global accreditation status for having the highest levels of cleanliness and safety. In the midst of the current pandemic, SJC achieves the distinction according to new recognition from the Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC) and the [GBAC STAR™ Facility Accreditation Program](#).

To achieve GBAC STAR™ accreditation, a facility must demonstrate compliance with the program's 20 elements, which range from standard operating procedures and risk assessment strategies to personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response measures.

The Airport said that it welcomes the acknowledgment as the accreditation helps reassure the traveling public that it is doing everything possible to protect public safety. Passenger traffic has diminished at airports the world over due to stay-at-home orders and ongoing concerns for air quality and safety in public spaces. SJC joins a growing number of San José facilities that have been GBAC STAR accredited, including the San José McEnery Convention Center, the family of San José Theaters, and numerous San José hotel properties.

“We are extremely honored by this global recognition,” said **John Aitken, Director of Aviation at Mineta San José International Airport**. “This GBAC Star rating is the result of ongoing and tireless efforts by our staff and contractors, who as frontline workers, have continued to show up to work every day throughout this pandemic. Their work has kept our airport operational and continues to ensure that everyone here can work and travel safely.”

“San José is a destination that embraces change and leads the way in the travel industry,” says **John LaFortune, Chief Operating Officer and interim Chief Executive Officer of Visit San José and parent organization Team San Jose**. “With a GBAC accredited airport, convention center, arena, theater venues and hotels, the visitor journey from start to finish will be where health and safety are top priorities.”

The Airport has undertaken numerous steps to ensure safe travel since the pandemic began. Numerous health and safety measures have been deployed throughout the airport in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including:

- On-site COVID-19 testing facility available to all passengers
- Face coverings required in all Airport facilities.
- Regular, deep cleanings using electrostatic sprayers to disinfect hard-to-reach areas
- Hand sanitizing stations in high-touch points areas throughout the Terminals
- Plexiglass shields installed at ticket counters, gate podiums, and baggage claim offices
- Social distancing signage to remind passengers to maintain six feet apart
- Partitions in restrooms between faucets and urinals to provide additional protection
- All escalator handrails have innovative ultraviolet light (UVC) devices installed to disinfect handrail surfaces killing up to 99.9% of bacteria and viruses, and restoring a freshly sanitized surface for each person to grasp.

The [GBAC STAR™ Facility Accreditation Program](#) helps public and commercial facilities establish and maintain a cleaning, disinfection, and infectious disease prevention programs that minimize risk associated with infectious agents and biohazards. The GBAC STAR™ asserts Mineta San José Airport as having the proper cleaning protocols, procedures, and practices in place to minimize risks associated with infectious agents and biohazards.

Please visit www.flysanjose.com/coronavirus for more information about SJC’s health and safety measures.

SJC: Transforming How Silicon Valley Travels



Mineta San José International Airport (SJC) is Silicon Valley's airport, a self-supporting enterprise owned and operated by the City of San Jose. The airport, now in its 71st year, served nearly 15.7 million passengers in 2019, with nonstop service across North America and to Europe and Asia. **For more airport information, visit <https://www.flysanjose.com>.**

About TEAM SAN JOSE

Team San Jose is an innovative partnership unifying the San Jose Convention and Visitors Bureau, hotels, arts, community business leaders, labor and public venues to deliver an exceptional visitor experience and serve as the gateway to San Jose as a destination. Team San Jose is the parent company of Visit San Jose, the city's official destination marketing organization. Team San Jose also manages the San Jose McEnery Convention Center, South Hall, and arts and entertainment venues including the California Theatre, the Center for Performing Arts, Montgomery Theater, and San Jose Civic. In addition, Team San Jose created and operates a full-service catering facility that serves as the official caterer in all TSJ managed venues. Team San Jose is a non-profit, economic development organization and the primary driver in generating economic impact to San Jose's local economy through leisure and business travel. **For more information, visit www.sanjose.org.**

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 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. The organization's services include biorisk management program assessment and training, Forensic Restoration® response and remediation, the GBAC STAR™ facility accreditation program, training and certification of individuals, and consulting for building owners and facility managers. **For more information, visit www.gbac.org.**

About ISSA

With more than 9,300 members—including distributors, manufacturers, manufacturer representatives, wholesalers, building service contractors, in-house service providers,

residential cleaners, and associated service members—ISSA is the world's leading trade association for the cleaning industry. The association is committed to changing the way the world views cleaning by providing its members with the business tools they need to promote cleaning as an investment in human health, the environment, and an improved bottom line. Headquartered in Northbrook, Ill., USA, the association has regional offices in Mainz, Germany; Whitby, Canada; Parramatta, Australia; Seoul, South Korea; and Shanghai, China. **For more information about ISSA, visit www.issa.com or call 800-225-4772 (North America) or 847-982-0800.**

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