



Cleaning Accreditation Helps NBA Arenas & Other Sports Venues Operate Confidently Amid Pandemic

NBA season is underway with 13 arenas accredited through GBAC STAR™ while the College Football National Championship kicks off at GBAC STAR-accredited Hard Rock Stadium

NORTHBROOK, Ill.—Jan. 11, 2021—With the 2020-2021 NBA season underway and more professional and college sporting events welcoming fans or planning to in the near future, it's essential that these venues have a strategic approach to cleaning for health and safety. The GBAC STAR™ Facility Accreditation Program from the [Global Biorisk Advisory Council™](#) (GBAC), a Division of ISSA, has garnered adoption across major sports venues in the United States, including 13 accredited NBA arenas, to safely allow in-arena attendance.

“We are thrilled that so many professional sports venues are taking the necessary steps to prioritize cleaning, disinfection, and infection prevention,” said GBAC Executive Director Patricia Olinger. “Maintaining safe facilities is crucial for protecting athletes, coaches, employees, and fans as they travel to these events.”

Achieving GBAC STAR accreditation means that a facility knows how to prepare, respond, and recover from infectious disease outbreaks and biohazard situations. Organizations must fulfill 20 program elements and re-accredit annually.

To date, 13 NBA arenas have achieved GBAC STAR and 11 others are in the process of securing accreditation. In addition to NBA arenas, team venues for the NFL, NHL, MLB, and MLS also have achieved GBAC STAR accreditation.

For example, tonight's 2021 College Football Playoff National Championship, featuring the Ohio State University Buckeyes and the University of Alabama Crimson Tide, is taking place at the Miami Dolphins' Hard Rock Stadium, a GBAC STAR-accredited facility. Other notable GBAC STAR-accredited stadiums and arenas include the STAPLES Center in Los Angeles; AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas; Oracle Park in San Francisco; and Banc of California Stadium in Los Angeles.

The full listing of venues—including hotels, convention centers, airports, offices, and many other facilities—that have achieved or committed to GBAC STAR is available on the GBAC STAR Facility Directory at gbac.org/directory.

“Facilities that commit to GBAC STAR put extensive time and effort into developing plans that prioritize health and safety,” added ISSA Executive Director John Barrett. “We applaud these sports venues and the growing roster of facilities of all types worldwide that have demonstrated their commitment to cleanliness by pursuing and achieving GBAC STAR accreditation.”

Hear from Olinger and Steve Arehart, GBAC director of program development, about how GBAC STAR has helped Hard Rock Stadium prepare for events such as tonight's championship game at www.youtube.com/watch?v=YTiob3TUvpU.



Learn about the STAPLES Center's experience with GBAC STAR at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21QyaZgeZe4>

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. For information on ISSA's Canadian division, ISSA Canada, visit <http://www.issa-canada.com> or call (866) 864-8273 or (905) 665-8001.

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MediaEdge is a proud reseller of the GBAC STAR and GBAC fundamentals online course. Please see the program details and links below and remember to use the promo codes when registering as they provide discounts.

1. Commercial facility owners looking for GBAC STAR accreditation can follow the link [here](#) and use the promo code **"MediaEdgeGS"**
2. ISSA has also released a new GBAC fundamentals online course specifically designed for cleaning workers on the frontlines of the coronavirus fight. Please click [here](#) to register and receive a discount off normal prices.

For additional program details and information, please email chuckn@mediaedge.ca or contact him at (416) 803-4653.