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ST★R Report

Get Educated on IAQ at Inaugural Symposium in Chicago

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GBAC Symposium on Air Considerations

Chicago, IL | August 16-17, 2022

- Learn from 11 world-renowned experts
- Connect at networking mixer
- Earn educational credits
- Enjoy full breakfast and lunch buffet

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GBAC Symposium 2022
Air Considerations
Chicago, Illinois
August 16-17, 2022



Deborah L. Birx, MD
*Former White House
Coronavirus Response
Coordinator*

Time is running out to register for the GBAC Symposium 2022, which is focused on Air Considerations. The event is set for August 16-17 in Chicago and brings together some of the greatest minds in the world to discuss the quality of indoor air in non-health care settings. The GBAC Symposium will be held at the Chicago Hyatt Regency, a GBAC STAR-accredited facility, and features prominent scientists, innovations, advancements and leadership in indoor air quality (IAQ).

Dr. Deborah Birx, former White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator, will keynote the event for the morning session on August 17. Dr. John McKeon, CEO, Allergy Standards Limited, will keynote the afternoon session.

Attendees will learn about improving IAQ and mitigating common issues in non-health care settings such as schools, offices, restaurants and gyms. Key takeaways include communicating best practices, innovations and advancements in technology, and specific programs and processes that make facilities safer not only during a pandemic but after the current crisis subsides.

Special pricing is available for ISSA members. For details, contact MichaelD@issa.com.

For the latest information on the GBAC Symposium 2022, visit <https://gbac.issa.com/events/gbac-symposium-2022>. ★



IAEE and GBAC Expand Partnership to Add Infectious Disease Awareness Education for Event Professionals

GBAC and the International Association of Exhibitions and Events® (IAEE) are expanding their partnership to include GBAC's Infectious Disease Awareness Course in IAEE's Certified in Exhibition Management (CEM) Learning Program for exhibition and event professionals.

IAEE will offer the Infection Disease Awareness Course from GBAC Academy, which is designed to increase participants' knowledge of infectious disease basics, including how they spread and how people become sick. The course will supplement the Security, Risk, and Crisis Management module within the CEM Learning Program curriculum.

"IAEE's partnership with GBAC began in 2020 and has been instrumental in helping exhibition and event professionals feel confident in managing the challenges of not only the COVID-19 pandemic but any infectious diseases that may emerge," David DuBois, IAEE President and CEO, said. "With this new course offering, exhibitors, show organizers and attendees can remain confident in their health and safety at these essential in-person events."

The GBAC Infectious Disease Awareness Course is approximately 30 minutes and covers the following:

- Increasing awareness about the chain of infection

- The importance of infectious disease or communicable disease prevention programs in the workplace
- Regulatory compliance
- Risk assessment
- The hierarchy of control
- Personal protective equipment (PPE).

Individuals who successfully complete the course within 30 days will receive a Certificate of Completion from GBAC. This course brings increased value to participants' employers and customers because it demonstrates competence to carry out their responsibilities, and their commitment to the standards of excellence and continuous learning.

"We are excited to continue our partnership with IAEE while educating events professionals on the intricacies of safe in-person events," said GBAC Executive Director Patricia Olinger. "As the world enters the post-COVID-19 pandemic phase, it's more important than ever to remain diligent in health-and-safety efforts."

The GBAC Infectious Disease Awareness Course is offered in English, Spanish, French, Italian, simplified Chinese and Haitian Creole. Through the IAEE Referral Program, members of IAEE will receive ISSA-member pricing. For more information, visit learn.iaee.com. ★



GBAC is Coming to the ISSA Pavilion and Congreso in Mexico!

- August 31 through September 2, 2022
- Pavilion and Congreso will be held at the Citibanamex Center in Mexico City
- The GBAC Star 20 Program Elements help you prepare your facility to minimize risks associated with infectious agents
- Join thousands of suppliers and service providers of the cleaning industry
- To register visit <https://pavilion.issa.com>



Monkeypox

What the cleaning industry must know

Patty Olinger, JM, RBP, Executive Director, GBAC

I have been asked many questions about Monkeypox. Is this something we should be concerned about? How is it spread? How do I protect myself, my family and my employees?

Unlike SARS-COV-2, Monkeypox has been around for a while. A lot of research has been completed and a vaccine already exists.

According to information on the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website, Monkeypox was first discovered in 1958 when two outbreaks of a pox-like disease occurred in colonies of monkeys kept for research, hence the name "monkeypox." <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/about.html>.

Monkeypox is considered endemic in several central and west African countries. But since May 2022, we have seen clusters in countries that typically don't have cases. According to the Global Health website (<https://map.monkeypox.global.health/country>), as of June 13 there have been 1,613 confirmed cases worldwide, something never seen before with Monkeypox.

Should we be concerned? My answer is that we need to be aware, educated and vigilant. As we teach in GBAC, we must be prepared for a scalable response to be resilient.

What is Monkeypox? How do you catch it?

Monkeypox is a rare viral infection thought to typically spread from close person-to-person contact through large respiratory droplets, direct

contact with skin lesions or bodily fluids, or indirect contact via contaminated surfaces, clothing or linens.

Infections can occur when a person comes into contact with the Monkeypox virus from an infected person, infected animal or any materials contaminated with the virus. Monkeypox can spread during intimate contact between people, including during sex, as well as activities like kissing, cuddling or touching parts of the body with monkeypox sores. At this time, it is not known if monkeypox can spread through semen or vaginal fluids.

There are many questions about respiratory protection needs. Think about it this way: Respiratory secretions can carry the virus. Respiratory droplets can then potentially cause infection. If you are in close proximity to someone who has Monkeypox, you should protect your eyes, nose and mouth. Droplets settle on surfaces, so proper cleaning and disinfection of surfaces, and especially surfaces that are touched often, are important. These are all lessons that we've learned over the years from other infectious materials as well. We must not forget.

What are its signs and symptoms?

Symptoms include fever and chills, headache, muscle aches, swollen lymph nodes, and a rash similar to chickenpox that can spread throughout the body, notably on the palms of the hands.

How does it compare with SARS-CoV2?

While health officials worldwide are urging vigilance when it comes to

Monkeypox, it is not SARS-COV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. While there is still much to learn, we know more about Monkeypox than we did in the beginning of COVID-19 outbreak. WHO and other world health leaders believe that it can be brought under control.

The Monkeypox virus is an enveloped virus, and most disinfectants will inactivate the virus. Check with your country to see if there is already a list of approved disinfectants to be used. If not, you can reference the U.S. EPA's Q-list (<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/disinfectants-emerging-viral-pathogens-evps-list-q>).

What hygiene measures can the masses adopt to stop its spread?

COVID-19 taught us many lessons. The lessons we learned apply here as well. We need to remember them now and forever.

- The cleaning industry is essential and a part of the overall defense against infectious disease outbreaks and pandemics
- Cleaning and disinfection for health are critical. We need to rethink clean. It is not just that a space looks clean or smells great, we must clean and disinfect correctly. How we clean and disinfect is important
- Hand hygiene is critical. Wash hands often. If you cannot wash your hands, use hand sanitizer
- In the wake of Monkeypox, step back and review your current cleaning procedures and equipment, and your cleaning and disinfection chemistries. They may already be effective against Monkeypox
- Focus on frequently touched surfaces
- Indoor air is important
- Train and educate your employees, your customers and your community
- Consider a third party accreditation of your program, such as GBAC STARTM Facility Accreditation. Let's build a resilient and sustainable community.

It is critical that we recognize the overall vision of the United Nations Sustainability Development Goals, and that the cleaning industry, through hygiene, supports the vision of many of the 17 Action Packages either directly or indirectly.

COVID 19 and Monkeypox are not the last of the infectious disease outbreaks we will see, but we can be prepared and be resilient. ★

GBAC Educational Leadership Highlights ISSA Show North America

Registration will open in late July for the 2022 ISSA Show North America, set for October 10-13 at Chicago's McCormick Place Convention Center, a GBAC STAR-accredited facility. GBAC, a division of ISSA, will be spotlighted with an educational leadership role at the show, which offers an impressive conference program featuring more than 70 educational sessions, workshops, panels, training and certification courses over four days.

The 2022 ISSA Show North America exhibition and conference brings together executives and leaders from all segments of the commercial and residential cleaning industries. This annual event is the leading platform for manufacturers, distributors and facility service providers to connect, conduct business and share information. In addition to an expansive exhibit hall with more than 600 exhibitors, the show will offer impressive learning opportunities in which attendees can study the latest trends from industry experts, discuss best practices with peers, and earn technical training and professional certification.

"ISSA Show North America is a great place for leaders to come together and exchange knowledge about cutting-edge technology and solutions," Melissa Wernersbach, GBAC Academy Manager, said. "It's a wonderful opportunity to engage in webinars, education and exhibits, and network with other industry leaders. Also, it's an excellent opportunity to shine as a GBAC-accredited facility, service provider, or registered program or registered technology."

According to Wernersbach, there will be an extensive roster of learning sessions led by some of the world's foremost authorities and subject-matter experts in the cleaning industry. Not only will attendees enjoy educational opportunities, but Wernersbach notes they will have the chance to talk face-to-face with ISSA leadership and other industry influencers from across the globe.

"Ultimately, ISSA Show North America increases the appreciation for cleaning and the investment in human health," Wernersbach said. "It's an opportunity to push education out

Where Do We Stand

GBAC STAR Facility Reaccreditation

GBAC STAR Family Reaccreditation is an annual process that builds on an initial accreditation, to ensure those facilities continue to evolve, improve and advance with the performance-based GBAC STAR program elements. More than 4,000 facilities make up the GBAC STAR Family and many are in the process of reaccreditation, while others are working toward accreditation.

GBAC STAR Family

As of June 15, 2022

89% of facilities committed to reaccreditation

1,227 facilities reaccredited

To learn more about this process, contact GBAC Sales at <https://gbac.issa.com/contact>.

to make sure people in the industry have access to many different resources from all segments of the business."

To learn more about the ISSA Show North America and to register your attendance, visit <https://www.issashow.com/en/home.html>. ★

GBAC STAR at The ISSA Pavilion and Congress in Mexico 2022

The Latin America region is active in adding more GBAC STAR accreditation facilities to the list of cleaning industry leaders and raising the standards through our programs. From Central America and South America to the Caribbean, ISSA members, both facilities and service providers, are committed to improving their standards for cleaning and disinfection to succeed in prevention, response, recovery and resilience.

For that reason, GBAC will deliver Infectious Disease Awareness in the Workplace and GBAC STAR 20 Program Elements in-person courses in Spanish for the first time at the ISSA Congress and Pavilion, scheduled to

be held in Mexico from August 3 - September 2, 2022.

The GBAC STAR 20 Program Elements will help prepare your facility to minimize risks associated with infectious agents through identifying goals and strategies to optimize cleaning, disinfection and mitigation measures.

Infectious Disease Awareness in the Workplace will increase your knowledge of infectious disease basics; the importance of prevention programs in the workplace — how they help mitigate COVID-19, for example; and how they help with regulatory compliance in Latin America.

Join thousands of suppliers and service providers of the cleaning industry

at the meeting point between the Cleaning and Maintenance industry and the Health and Hospitality sectors. Take advantage of the Spanish delivery of the GBAC courses near you and grow your business with the wonderful networking opportunities in LATAM.

GBAC is joining this Congress as part of a partnership event ISSA co-hosts yearly with allies ABASTUR (hospitality industry) and EXPOMED (health industry), which are part of Informa Markets. This year, the Pavilion and Congress will be held at the Citibanamex Center in Mexico City. For more information and to register early for discounts and savings, visit pavilion.issa.com. ★



New Complimentary Adhesive Decals Now Available

You can now order free decals to help promote your accreditation. Made with an adhesive on the back, these decals can be easily applied and removed.

- 4-1/2" x 9-1/2" vertical or 4-1/2" x 11-1/2" horizontal
- Back affixing decal
- Available for accredited facilities and service providers
- Order up to 50
- Complimentary shipping!

Use this form to place your order: <https://gbac.issa.com/cling-order-form/>. ★

NEWS YOU CAN USE

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Marian Downing, RBP, CBSP, SM(NRCM), is featured in the GBAC-TIPS Journal for her article on Monkeypox, Disinfection and EPA List Q (for Emerging Viral Pathogens). Downing leads the reader through the process of choosing a product that meets qualifications and how to effectively use disinfectants for emerging viral pathogens. To learn more, visit <https://infectioncontrol.tips/2022/06/23/monkeypox-disinfection-and-epa-list-q-for-emerging-viral-pathogens/>.

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The World Health Organization has warned that urgent action is needed to contain the spread of monkeypox in Europe, as cases have tripled over the past two weeks. Europe is the center of a global outbreak of the virus, with 90% of confirmed monkeypox cases reported there, according to the WHO. New infections have tripled since June 15 with 4,500 confirmed cases across 31 European nations. Banfield News has this report: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VINAp0JlZY0>.

Looking Ahead

Sign Up Now for GBAC STAR Accreditation Workshop

If you are working on your documentation for accreditation or reaccreditation, attending the free GBAC STAR Accreditation Workshop is a great investment. The next session of the GBAC STAR Accreditation Workshop is set to be held from 10 a.m. — noon, ET, July 26-27, 2022. Only 100 participants are allowed each month for the Virtual Workshop, so signing up early is highly encouraged. This two-day digital briefing reviews the accreditation process and takes a deep dive into the 20 program elements required for accreditation. It is interactive with GBAC staff at the ready to answer your questions. The goal is to ready you and other clients for the task of gathering documents for accreditation. Come with your materials and ready to work through the elements. To learn more about or register for GBAC STAR Accreditation Workshop, visit <https://events.issa.com/events/gbac-star-20-elements-bootcamp/>. ★

COME SEE US

Members of the GBAC team will be presenting or hosting exhibits at the following events in the month of July. Check the websites for details.

July 10-13

2022 SWAAAE Hybrid Summer Conference, Sonoma, California
<https://swaaae.org/event-3587958>

July 16-22

Destinations International Annual Convention, Metro Toronto Convention Centre
<https://destinationsinternational.org/>

July 18-21

IAVM Venue Connect 2022, GBAC STAR Accredited Phoenix Convention Center
<https://www.iavm.org/venueconnect-2022-iavms-97th-annual-conference>



GBAC STAR

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