

Kyoto International Conference Center

First international conference and exhibition hall in Asia to acquire GBAC STAR™ Accreditation

Officially recognized as a facility that fulfills international sanitation standards for infectious disease prevention measures

The novel coronavirus has increased the importance of sanitation control throughout society. To ensure safety for Center users in this new environment, Kyoto International Conference Center (location: Takaragaike, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto City, Kyoto Prefecture) has become the first MICE facility* in Asia to acquire GBAC STAR Facility Accreditation ("GBAC STAR™ Accreditation" below), which certifies the Center as a facility that fulfills international sanitation standards for Center cleaning, disinfecting, and infectious disease prevention measures.

Starting in December of last year, the Center received "Inspections and Procedures for the MICE Facility Accreditation System" support provided by the Japan Tourism Agency. First, two staff members acquired Trained Technician certification from Global Biorisk Advisory Council ("GBAC" below) by taking English online seminars and undergoing testing. Next, the Center underwent an inspection regarding the roles and responsibilities of each division and staff member in the Center regarding cleaning, disinfecting, and infectious disease prevention, and acquired accreditation concerning infectious disease prevention measures for international standards set by GBAC.

Internationally, many North American MICE facilities including the Las Vegas Convention Center have acquired GBAC STAR™ Accreditation. And in Japan as well, accreditation has started amongst lodging facilities from autumn of last year onward.

As a facility that can host international conferences and events in an even safer and more secure environment due to our recent GBAC STAR™ Accreditation acquisition, we will continue to promote MICE attraction and Center usage support based in the following policy.

1. In this coronavirus pandemic, many North American and European convention centers have acquired accreditation for international sanitation standards. By being a pioneer amongst Asia and Japanese MICE facilities to acquire GBAC STAR™ Accreditation, the Center will be able to enhance its MICE market competitiveness in Japan and Kyoto.
2. By increasing the visual assessment of cleaning and sanitation control, the Center will be able to provide a safe and secure conference environment to users and provide services for new MICE event formats.
3. By not limiting this effort to cleaning alone, but instead also establishing protocols from a sanitation control stance and conducting staff training, we will continually raise the awareness of all staff members in a way that transcends the overseeing division.

GBAC STAR™ Accreditation

The GBAC STAR Accreditation Program, developed by The Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC), a division of International Sanitary Supply Association (ISSA), is a performance-based program designed to help facilities establish a comprehensive system of cleaning, disinfection, and infectious disease prevention for their staff and their building.

MICE facility*

MICE facilities are complex facilities that provide spaces to conduct trade shows and conferences as their main business. In Japan, they are often called *kaigijo* (conference halls).

MICE is an acronym made up of the first letters of these four words: Meetings (gatherings and seminars), Incentives (motivation and training trips), Conferences or Conventions (international meetings, academic meetings, and general meetings), and Exhibitions (exhibits and trade shows) or Events. These four elements are also referred to as "business events".

Inquiries regarding this issue

GBAC Project Team: Seki and Iwahashi +81-075-705-1229 (Inquiry)

A Notice from the Kyoto International Conference Center

April 2021: A new Public Relations Office has been established within the Business Promotion Division. In addition to handling news coverage, the new office will conduct public relations for all stakeholders and engage in "customer needs assessment", "brand strategy promotion", etc. through marketing activities.

Member of Market& PR Section: Iwahashi, Morishita, and Onoda

+81-075-705-1229

ask@icckyo.or.jp