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**Media Alert**

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## **Hampton Roads Convention Center Has Achieved GBAC STAR™ Facility Accreditation**

**Hampton, VA** – The Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton, Virginia has achieved the Global Biorisk Advisory Council® (GBAC) STAR™ accreditation, the gold standard for prepared facilities. Under the guidance of GBAC, a Division of ISSA, the worldwide cleaning industry association, The Hampton Roads Convention Center has implemented the most stringent protocols for cleaning, disinfection and infectious disease prevention. The Center is currently serving as a vaccination site.

“At the Hampton Roads Convention Center, the safety of our guests and employees is our top priority,” said Eric Nealy, general manager at the Hampton Roads Convention Center. “We have established key best practices to ensure a clean, healthy and safe environment for all our clients, guests and visitors.”

As the cleaning industry’s only outbreak prevention, response and recovery accreditation, GBAC STAR™ helps organizations establish protocols and procedures, offers expert-led training and assesses a facility’s readiness for biorisk situations. The program verifies that the Hampton Roads Convention Center implements best practices to prepare for, respond to and recover from outbreaks and pandemics.

“GBAC STAR accreditation empowers facility owners and managers to assure workers, customers and key stakeholders that they have proven systems in place to maintain clean and healthy environments,” said GBAC Executive Director Patricia Olinger. “By taking this important step to pursue GBAC STAR, the Hampton Roads Convention Center has

received third-party validation that it follows strict protocols for biorisk situations, thereby demonstrating its preparedness and commitment to operating safely.”

To achieve GBAC STAR™ accreditation, The Hampton Roads Convention Center was required to demonstrate compliance with the program’s 20 core elements, which range from standard operating procedures and risk assessment strategies to personal protective equipment and emergency preparedness and response measures. Learn more about GBAC STAR accreditation at [www.gbac.org](http://www.gbac.org).

### **About The Hampton Roads Convention Center**

White sails above the entrance to the Hampton Roads Convention Center provide a visual reminder of the first settlers to reach this area by sea over 400 years ago. Today’s visitors to this impressive facility travel here for a variety of purposes; to share ideas, compete in athletic competitions, and introduce new products, just to name a few, in surroundings as inspirational as they are functional. A model of flexibility, the center’s 344,000 square feet and 35 event spaces contain three exhibit halls, a multi-configurable grand ballroom, a conference center with private access and an enormous amount of pre-function area.

### **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](http://www.gbac.org).

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