



For Immediate Release

## The Okura Tokyo Achieved GBAC STAR™ Facility Accreditation

Meet the international hygienic criteria for the infectious disease

TOKYO, JAPAN, January 7, 2021, Hotel Okura Tokyo Co., Ltd. announced that it has achieved 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 Okura Tokyo has implemented the most stringent protocols for cleaning, disinfection and infectious disease prevention in its facilities on December 14, 2020.



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 Okura Tokyo 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 Okura Tokyo 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 Okura Tokyo 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).

Regarding achieving GBAC STAR™ accreditation, General Manager of The Okura Tokyo, Shinji Umehara, commented “we decided to obtain accreditation from this international organization with the intention of reducing anxiety of our customers regarding infectious disease at The Okura Tokyo even a little, as new coronavirus COVID-19 infections continue to spread on a global scale. We place the highest importance on the health and safety of our customers and staff, so we have instituted thorough measures against the spread of infection to provide a space where customers feel comfortable and at home”.

#### **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).



#### **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](http://www.issa.com) or call 800-225-4772 (North America) or 847-982-0800.

#### **The Okura Tokyo**

The Okura Tokyo, the new flagship hotel of Hotel Okura Co., Ltd, opened its doors to the public in September 12, 2019 under the concept of tradition and innovation. Offering a unique and enchanting experience for its guests and visitors, the hotel is the highest-branded property of Hotel Okura group. It reprises the famed traditional Japanese beauty of the former Hotel Okura Tokyo, which opened its doors in 1962, as well as its cherished simplicity and elegance, to offer a new combination of “Traditional Luxury – The Okura Heritage” and “Contemporary Luxury – The Okura Prestige.” About half of the hotel grounds—1.3 hectares—is covered with lush gardens and greenery, allowing guests to view and enjoy the changing scenery during the four seasons. The Okura Museum of Art, Japan’s first privately operated art museum, is also located on the hotel grounds.

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