

# Hygiene concept for aircraft handling at Braunschweig-Wolfsburg Airport

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## 1. Introduction

Since mid-March 2020, the outbreak of the COVID 19 pandemic has been a major challenge for every individual in terms of the maximum possible protection against the further spread of the virus. As a public facility in the transport sector with numerous and daily changing guests, this affected and still affects Braunschweig-Wolfsburg Airport in particular. In order to provide the safest possible environment for employees, passengers, visitors and other companies working at the airport, Braunschweig-Wolfsburg Airport has taken various hygiene measures and laid them down in this hygiene concept. This concept is subject to constant revision and adaptation to the latest developments, findings and regulations.

The concept is based on the legal foundations of the Federal Ministry of Health (BMG), the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS) and the State of Lower Saxony, as well as on recommendations of the Robert Koch Institute (RKI), the Association of Municipal Employers (KAV), the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), the Association of German Commercial Airports (ADV) and the Association of Regional Airports (IDRF). This hygiene concept does not regulate aviation law issues (e.g. possible restrictions on flight events from certain regions or countries and related regulations). Current aviation regulations are published by the BMG and Deutsche Flugsicherung GmbH (DFS) via the "Bundesanzeiger" (Federal Gazette) as well as via NOTAM.

## 2. Legal basis of this hygiene concept

The dynamic development of the pandemic entails constant changes to the legal basis - issued by the BMG, the BMAS and the state government of Lower Saxony. The most important foundations of this concept are:

- the Infection Protection Law (IfSG),
- the Corona Occupational Health and Safety Regulations and
- the Lower Saxony Corona Regulation

in their respective current versions.

### 2.1 Regulations of the State of Lower Saxony

Following the suspension of most of the uniform federal Corona rules on 20.03.2022, Corona transitional rules are currently in force in all the German federal states and will expire on 03.04.2022. To enable measures that may still be needed to target Corona outbreaks, the state of Lower Saxony is expected to introduce so-called hotspot regulations. These regulations will allow the state to introduce or tighten certain rules, such as a mask requirement, access rules to certain facilities (3G, 3G+, 2G, or 2G+), and other rules for the public, corporate, and private sectors for a limited period of time, if necessary and on a localized basis. These rules must therefore also be observed.

## 3. Basic COVID-19 conditional hygiene rules

In order to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 pathogen, the following rules apply in principle and for all operating areas:

### **3.1 social distancing**

The most important means of preventing infection is to maintain a "healthy" distance ("social distancing") from every other person from different households. This cannot always be guaranteed in operational areas (e.g. check-in and GAT), for which additional measures apply there (e.g. permanent obligation to wear a mouth/nose covering, separation by means of Plexiglas). In the check-in areas, waiting rooms, sanitary facilities, corridors and staircases, there is a general obligation to wear mouth/nose coverings.

### **3.2 Wearing mouth/nose coverings**

The obligation to wear mouth/nose coverings in the form of medical masks, FFP2 masks or masks with standard KN95/N95 applies to all employees, guests and visitors **during a check-in** in the check-in areas, waiting rooms, corridors, stairwells and sanitary facilities. In areas outside buildings, the obligation always applies if the distance rules (at least 1.5m) cannot be maintained. The obligation to wear MNB also applies to the operational use of vehicles for all occupants except the driver.

### **3.3 Hand disinfection options for staff, guests and visitors**

Dispensers with hand disinfectant solution are installed in many places, such as at entrances and in the sanitary facilities. Signs attached to the dispensers remind people to use the solution actively.

### **3.4 Disinfection of surfaces**

The airport cleaning service regularly disinfects all surfaces that are frequently used by many different people (e.g. door handles, handrails, etc.).

### **3.5 Cancelled**

### **3.6 Ventilation of operating areas**

According to the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations, regular ventilation of operating rooms must be ensured. This applies especially to rooms with high occupancy rates (e.g. check-in areas). Ventilation should be intermittent and draughts should be avoided as far as possible.

## 4. Additional special requirements of the aircraft handling and GAT operating areas

### 4.1 Check-in, Security Control and Waiting Areas, Boarding, Deboarding and Apron Handling

#### 4.1.1 Check-in, Security Control and Waiting Areas

These areas are the most difficult to regulate in terms of hygiene due to their location (inside closed rooms) and the large number of people.

In order to be able to comply with the distance rules between people in these areas, the following measures were implemented:

- Floor markings (request to wait per person)
- situation-dependent relocation of the main entrance for passengers (and flight personnel)
- Routing through flexible barriers ("One Way")
- Posting of behavioural instructions
- Control and request for compliance with the obligation to wear mouth/nose coverings during a check-in

In order to separate airport staff from travellers (including flight staff), acrylic glass panels have been installed at the counters (check-in and security control).

The wearing of mouth/nose coverings (medical masks) is mandatory during a check-in in closed areas (corridors, check-in, sanitary facilities, waiting rooms).

Mouth/nose coverings are available at check-in if required.

Cleaning intervals (surfaces, door handles, shelves, seating) have been increased.

Hand sanitizer dispensers have been installed in front of the check-in, in the waiting areas and in the sanitary facilities.

In order to actively control and limit the number of people in the handling areas, Traffic Control reserves the right to **postpone flights or refuse flight requests**.

Customer-specific requirements can be additionally implemented on an occasion-related basis in consultation with the operations management.

Upon customer request, rooms for medical tests can be made available.

#### 4.1.2 Boarding

Where possible, boarding will be arranged in such a way that:

- an unnecessary stay in the waiting area is avoided,
- continuous boarding is carried out while maintaining the minimum distances.

#### 4.1.3 Deboarding

Deboarding is carried out in consultation with the aircraft crew in order to be able to maintain the minimum distances (> 1,5m). Where possible, baggage will be deposited directly on the aircraft on the apron and must be picked up by the passengers themselves. For flights from non-Schengen states, access to passport control will be arranged as far as possible so that the distances between travelers can be maintained (establishment of a sufficiently large waiting area in front of the immigration container).

#### 4.1.4 Apron Handling

As soon as the minimum distances (1.5m) cannot be maintained, the currently prescribed obligation to wear a mouth/nose covering (medical masks) applies. This applies to **all** persons involved in aircraft handling.

#### 4.2 General Aviation Terminal (GAT)

In the GAT, the following additional measures are specified due to the structural conditions and the flow of aircraft crews and passengers:

- use of the glass partition between the flight preparation room and the duty room of the traffic controllers
- in the flight preparation room and in the waiting room for passengers and crews, the wearing of an MNB can be waived if a minimum distance of >1.5m to other persons can be maintained, but an MNB must be kept available in any case
- payment of charges should be made as cashless as possible
- a dispenser with disinfectant solution is located at the airside entrance to the GAT building
- when using the vehicles to pick up crews or passengers, all passengers except the driver must wear a mask covering their mouth and nose.

## 5. Validity, Revision and Expiry

This hygiene concept is valid in accordance with the legislative measures and until revoked. The hygiene concept shall be revised monthly, at the latest, however, after a new regulatory situation becomes public knowledge. If a revision does not require a change in content, the revision number is to be retained, but the date of the revision is to be added. Changes are marked in colour until the next revision.

Braunschweig, March 24, 2022



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