



Joint News Release
February 21, 2020
11:30 a.m (ChST)

Guam Airport to Equip Facility with Thermal Scanners

As part of its mission to provide a safe and secure facility for visitors, staff, and the people of Guam, the A.B. Won Pat International Airport Authority, Guam (GIAA) continues to do its part to prevent the onset of COVID-19 locally. Part of this effort includes procuring thermal scanners for screening of passengers.

“We are looking at the highest and best use equipment that works for our airport,” stated GIAA Executive Manager Tom Ada. “Collaborative efforts with all responding agencies on this issue will determine the end product on which to invest and equip our airport facility,” he continued. “Our intention is to fast track the delivery and installation to strengthen our safety measures.”

Thermal scanners will add an additional security layer and may be used beyond the COVID-19 threat. The technology can detect body temperature and identify “hotspots” or congestive conditions to alert airport officials to a situation within the facility. Guam officials continue to follow guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. federal government.

Ada stated, “Going forward, the airport, in collaboration with Department of Public Health and Social Services, Guam Customs and Quarantine, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Transportation Security Administration, and other regulatory partners, will be holding briefings with direct contact tenants and workers at the airport. We will be discussing the importance of good hygiene and disinfectant measures for widely used surfaces, such as forms counters and biometric finger pads.”

The Guam Visitors Bureau (GVB) continues to monitor Guam’s source markets and share relevant information with travelers and the tourism industry. Earlier this week, GVB hosted a briefing for industry stakeholders.

“We’re all in this together and working very closely with our government and private partners,” said GVB President and CEO Pilar Lagaña. “Guam, along with the rest of the world, is taking this threat seriously. This situation is rapidly changing, and we are constantly adjusting to it. GVB’s role is to monitor and share information. While we may be seeing some cancelations, we are in close communication with our overseas and local partners to ensure our visitors that precautionary measures are being taken as we continue to extend the *Håfa Adai* spirit.”

There have been no confirmed cases of COVID-19, and there are no cases that meet the CDC criteria for a Person Under Investigation for COVID-19 in Guam. Guam is carefully assessing the situation as it evolves. With any change in status, anticipate timely notification.

Stay Up to Date with Reputable Sources

It is important to note that the situation can change daily. The community is reminded to only share official notices and visit the following links for the most up-to-date information:

- CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- DPHSS website: <http://dphss.guam.gov/2019-novel-coronavirus-2019-n-cov/>
- GHS/OCD website: <https://ghs.guam.gov/coronavirus>

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