# Guide to Hygiene and Sanitation in Aviation

**Third Edition** 

Module 1: Water Module 2: Cleaning and Disinfection of Facilities

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The development of the third edition of the guide to hygiene and sanitation in aviation was motivated by the update of the International Health Regulations 2005. It involved a large number of experts and WHO staff (see names above).

An informal meeting took place in April 2006 in Baltimore, USA, and brought together a number of key international experts. This meeting was to discuss the content of the existing version, define additional contributions, agree on next steps and define key contributors.

A meeting of the Expert Network engaged in the development of the Guide to Hygiene and Sanitation in Aviation, Third Edition, was held in Toronto, Canada, on 24–26 March 2008. The meeting was facilitated by Health Canada.

Once the contents of the update were completed and agreed to by the expert group, the update was shared for peer review with a large number of international experts. Comments were integrated, and the final version was consolidated.

### GLOSSARY

Accessible	Capable of being exposed for cleaning and inspection with the use of simple tools, such as a screwdriver, pliers or an open-end wrench.
Adequate hygiene	Level of hygiene sufficient for the prevention of public health risk.
Aircraft water system	Water service panel, filler neck and the onboard water storage tanks and all of the plumbing and fixtures on the aircraft.
Airport water system	On-site airport distribution system and possibly water treatment facilities if the airport is a producer of potable water.
Backflow	Flow of water or other liquids, mixtures or substances into the distribution pipes of a potable supply of water from any source or sources other than the potable water supply. Back-siphonage is one form of backflow. <i>See also</i> Back-siphonage.
Backflow preventer	Approved backflow prevention plumbing device that would typically be used on potable water distribution lines where there is a direct connection or a potential connection between the potable water distribution system and other liquids, mixtures or substances from any source other than the potable water supply. Some devices are designed for use under continuous water pressure, whereas others are non-pressure types.
Back-siphonage	Backward flow of used, contaminated or polluted water from a plumbing fixture or vessel or other source into a water supply pipe as a result of negative pressure in the pipe.
Biohazard bag	Bag used to secure biohazard waste that requires microbiological inactivation in an approved manner for final disposal. Such bags must be disposable and impervious to moisture and have sufficient strength to preclude tearing or bursting under normal conditions of usage and handling.
Cleaning	Removal of visible dirt or particles through mechanical action, normally undertaken on a routine and frequent basis. The cleaning process and some products used for cleaning also result in disinfection. <i>See also</i> Disinfection.
Communicable disease	Illness caused by organisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites that can be directly or indirectly transmitted from an infected person to others. Sometimes the illness is due not to the organism itself, but rather to a toxin that the organism produces after it has been introduced into a human host.

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