

# The City of Albuquerque Partners with Build With Robots Inc.

## At a Glance:

- The Albuquerque International Sunport, New Mexico's largest commercial airport of 700,000 square feet, struggled with frequent flight and workflow changes in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Nyika Allen, the Director of the Sunport at the time, chose disinfecting robots to support the overwhelmed custodial team and to keep passengers and employees safe from illness.
- Regular disinfection continues today (2023), with four Breezy One robots covering the entire airport in less than 20 minutes.

## Introduction

The Albuquerque International Sunport is New Mexico's largest commercial airport. The Sunport's mission and vision is to "strive to be a first-class airport, connecting families, businesses and cultures while prioritizing safety, diversity, sustainability, and accessibility." In 2021, the Sunport received [Global Biorisk Advisory Council's \(GBAC\)](#) STAR Facility Accreditation. This performance-based accreditation is the gold standard for facilities and demonstrates that proper cleaning, disinfection, and infectious disease prevention protocols are in place. Only 53 out of over 5,000 public airports in the United States currently hold this accreditation.

Breezy One™ by Build With Robots, Inc. (BWR), a fully autonomous disinfecting robot, was co-developed with the City of Albuquerque's Aviation Department to assist custodial staff with nightly disinfection of the Sunport's facilities.

## Challenges

One of the major challenges that the Sunport faces, as an essential transportation facility, is that custodial staff are expected to carry out necessary job functions regardless of the circumstances. With frequent flight and workflow changes, it is important to have an adaptable disinfecting solution that can remotely change routes, schedules, and frequencies as needs change. As new

challenges arise, as was seen by the overwhelming COVID-19 pandemic, innovative new technologies should be considered to help support efficient workflow and effective disinfection.

## Solution

Two local businesses supporting one another, with the common goal of prioritizing community and safety, makes BWR's partnership with the Sunport particularly special.

Breezy One helps to support the Sunport's mission by decreasing the need for manual disinfecting supplies, using only a quarter of disinfectant typically used, and improving air quality. The disinfectant utilized is [EPA List N](#) certified, originally developed by Sandia National Laboratories, and [Green Clean Institute](#) certified. These qualities and more led the robot to become one of GBAC STAR's Registered technologies.

The Sunport utilizes four Breezy One robots, one for each major section of the airport, with only four operators covering nearly 700,000 square feet in less than 20 minutes. Breezy One is disinfecting before custodial staff get to work ensuring all employees feel safe when they arrive for their shifts. By protecting custodial staff against viral pathogens and harsh chemicals, Breezy One allows custodial staff to provide service and value across the airport with less time dedicated to disinfection.



*"We are pleased to add Breezy One to our team to help keep the entire Sunport community safe. Our custodial staff is one of the best in the nation, and this is a welcomed addition to not only help with our new cleaning and disinfecting procedures, but to keep them safe in the process."*

**Nyika Allen, Former Director of Aviation for the City of Albuquerque**