



# BLADE

## URBAN AIR MOBILITY

**November 16, 2020**

### **BLADE BECOMES THE FIRST AVIATION COMPANY TO INTERGRATE PRE-FLIGHT COVID-19 TESTING FOR JET SERVICE WITHIN THE UNITED STATES**

(NEW YORK, NY)—BLADE Urban Air Mobility (“BLADE”) is now the first aviation company to offer and require pre-boarding COVID-19 testing for scheduled jet service within the United States. The requirement applies to all passengers, cabin attendants and BLADE lounge employees for all shared jet flights.

BLADE offers weekly scheduled jet service between New York, Miami and Aspen. Flights operate from private BLADE Lounges in Manhattan, Westchester and Miami in addition to a private aviation terminal in Aspen.

The pre-boarding testing (administered prior to check-in) is performed on-site by CrowdRX, a division of Global Medical Response, one of the largest medical response companies in the world, treating over 10 million patients last year.

Melissa Tomkiel, General Counsel and President of Fixed Wing at BLADE said, “BLADE was the first aviation company to require mandatory blood oxygen saturation and temperature screening for all of its flights starting back in March. Testing was always on our timeline for our shared jet services. Now that we are satisfied with the safety, reliability, and ease of our testing program, it has been integrated into our pre-boarding protocols.”

The aircraft used for both BLADEone jet service to Miami and Aspen are an integral part of the company’s health and safety protocol. The BLADEone jets are commercial sized jets, normally accommodating 65 passengers, that have been retrofitted for only 8 passengers on each side of the fuselage—so every seat is both an aisle and window seat. The aircraft used for BLADE Aspen is a similar configuration but accommodates 14 passengers.

In addition to the mandatory pre-boarding testing program, all passengers and BLADE SKYcx are screened for temperature and blood oxygen saturation levels providing an additional layer of safety. Lavatories onboard are also sanitized after each use and all passengers and crew must wear masks at all times except during dining.

“Our integrated testing program has been well received by our passengers. It’s a quick process and has provided our passengers with peace of mind that has yet to be achieved by the U.S. commercial airline industry”, said Tomkiel.

BLADE’s health and safety protocol across all of its products and services in the U.S. and India have been designed by Dr. Andrew Bazos, Founder and Managing Director of CrowdRX and designated Medical Director for FEMA In New York City.

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