



For Immediate Release

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**Rickenbacker's Foreign-Trade Zone tops in 2015
textile and footwear imports**
FTZ #138 a top 10 zone for third consecutive year

COLUMBUS – Rickenbacker's [Foreign-Trade Zone #138](#) is tops in the nation for the total value of textiles and footwear imported into the United States through FTZs in 2015, moving more than \$6.2 billion out of the nation's total \$8.9 billion in that category.

"We are pleased to be the nation's top FTZ for textiles and footwear," said David Whitaker, Vice President of Business Development & Communications at Columbus Regional Airport Authority. "It's a testament to the strong distribution and logistics landscape in the region, and our strong partners in the retail sector.

"We expect this trend to continue for the foreseeable future as more distribution centers will become active within FTZ #138 in the next few years," Whitaker continued. "We will keep working diligently to help companies in Central Ohio compete globally by operating as part of FTZ #138."

Foreign-Trade Zone #138, administered by CRAA, was ranked ninth out of 186 active zones in the United States based on the total value of all goods that entered in 2015. More than \$7.8 billion of goods moved through the zone, up 37 percent from \$5.7 billion in 2014. This is the third consecutive year FTZ #138 was ranked one of the top 10 U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones.

FTZ #138 serves 25 counties in Central Ohio and allows companies to increase global competitiveness and profits by lowering costs associated with importing merchandise including textiles, footwear, pharmaceuticals and electronics. Benefits of the FTZ include deferred, reduced or eliminated U.S. Customs import duties; reduced processing fees; quicker movement of goods from the port of entry; supply chain predictability; strong inventory control; and best practice relative to cargo security.

FTZ #138 received its No. 9 ranking via the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zone Board's 2015 Annual Report to Congress. The Board is part of the International Trade Administration within the U.S. Department of Commerce.

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About FTZ #138

Foreign-Trade Zone #138, administered by the Columbus Regional Airport Authority, is part of the greater [Rickenbacker Inland Port](#). Rickenbacker is a high-speed, international, multimodal logistics hub, featuring a tremendous mix of air, sea, rail and ground transportation assets supporting the supply-chain logistics and distribution operations of a large community of premier international shippers, freight forwarders, consolidators, Customs brokers and third-party logistics providers.

Anchored by cargo-dedicated Rickenbacker International Airport, the inland port is recognized for its strategic geographic location featuring advanced transportation infrastructure and is situated within a 10-hour truck drive to 47 percent of the United States population, one-third of the Canadian population and 44 percent of the United States manufacturing capacity.

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