

# FOREIGN TRADE ZONE (FTZ) #138

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## WHAT IS IT, AND WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

A Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) is a tool that companies can use to increase their global competitiveness. Goods may be transferred from U.S. ports of entry to a FTZ, or between FTZ's, duty free. And, if the products are re-exported, no duties are paid.

Products made overseas for overseas markets may be brought into a FTZ for storage or consolidation with other products,

allowing distribution of complete shipments to customers. Normally, goods in a FTZ avoid federal excise taxes, and both foreign and domestic goods in a General Purpose FTZ are exempt from Ohio inventory taxes.



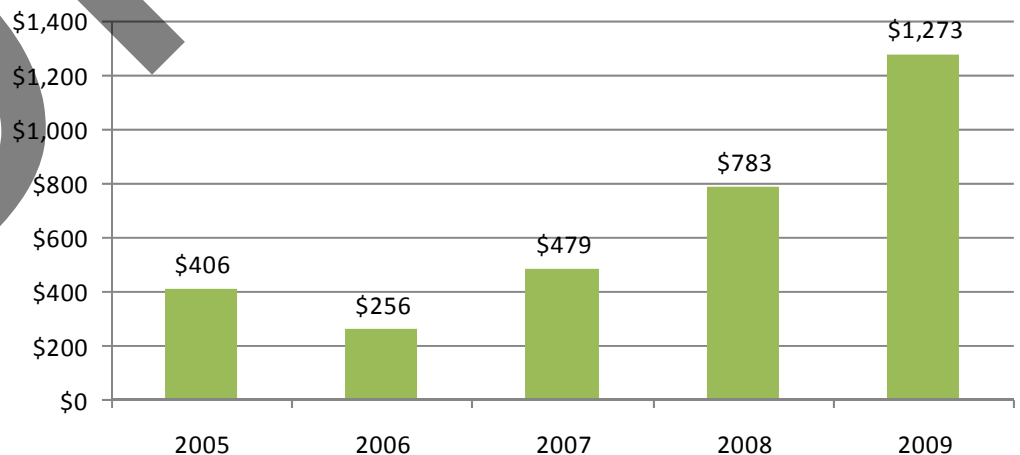
## FTZ #138

The Columbus Regional Airport Authority is grantee and operator of Foreign-Trade Zone #138 which encompasses over 5,000 acres at Rickenbacker, with additional acreage in satellite locations in Allen, Ross, Guernsey, Fairfield, Madison, Hocking and Licking Counties. These FTZ locations include facilities such as warehouses and distribution centers in industrial parks that can be used by more than one firm, as well as three sub-zones at specific business locations. The FTZ at Rickenbacker can accommodate two types of uses - industrial and aeronautical.

### FAST GROWTH

In the past few years FTZ #138, has experienced tremendous growth, nearly a 63% increase between 1999 and 2000 as shown in the following graph. The FTZ experienced a low-point in 1998 when Rickenbacker began operating the FTZ, and a second low point in 2001 can be attributed to September 11th flight cancellations. However, FTZ #138 activity has been increasing steadily in recent years.

## FTZ 138 - Total Admissions (In Millions)



Source: Columbus Regional Airport Authority  
(<http://www.columbusairports.com>)