

What Happens to Travel in a Post-COVID World?

Last week's edition of Path Forward focused on the future of travel.

The episode examined what the pandemic means for the nation's \$1.6 trillion travel and tourism industry—from new sanitization and social-distancing protocols in hotels and on aircraft, to the future of road warriors.

U.S. Chamber President Suzanne Clark was joined by:

- Rick Steves, travel writer and television host
- Jennie Blumenthal, Partner and Travel, Transportation and Hospitality Leader, PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Mike Delaney, Leader, Confident Travel Initiative and Vice President, Digital Transformation, Boeing Commercial Airplanes
- Jeff Knittel, Chairman and CEO, Airbus Americas, Inc.

What they said:

- "We have to be patient, we have to embrace science, and we have to get a grip on this," said Steves. "And in due time I think we will go back."
- Travel-related businesses need to build trust, said Blumenthal: "Safety is the new loyalty."
- Knittel noted, "Part of what we have to do is to educate the public as to why flying is safe."

• Delaney added, "Most people are unaware of the capabilities of an airplane's air conditioning system" and the filtering systems they use.

Watch the program <u>here</u>.