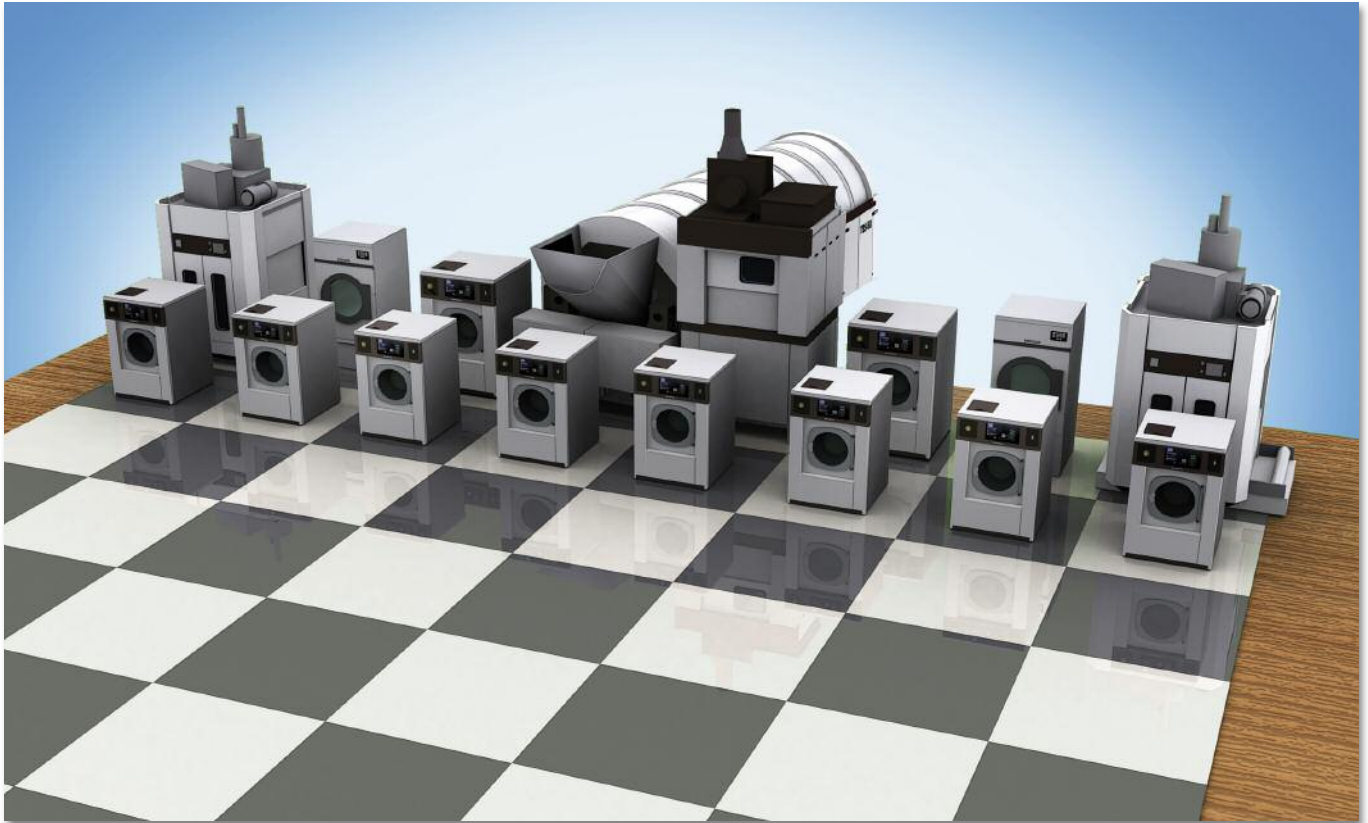


The right answer for your next move



As a leading manufacturer of industrial laundry equipment, Girbau provides the easiest and best solution for every customer

Girbau has always believed that it must offer its customers and the whole laundry sector both the best products and the best support. So it has an extensive portfolio of services including free project design and maintenance contracts as well as advice and information on laundry processes. Here the company answers some of the questions frequently asked by the owners and managers of heavy-duty laundries.

Why should the laundry change its tunnel washer?

To save water: The advanced features in Girbau's TBS tunnel washers can reduce water consumption by over 60% compared with that of equipment manufactured in the 20th century.

To save energy: The heat-exchanger system (drain intercooler) used in the current Girbau tunnel washer saves an average of 35% in the energy needed for a standard 70C wash process. Further, the equipment now rinses at a temperature that allows the SPR50 press to extract up to 10% more moisture, so reducing both dryer time and energy use. The current presses work at a higher

pressure (40bar) than their predecessors and this also increases extraction efficiency and saves energy.

To cut maintenance costs: Older equipment will have a higher ratio of maintenance costs to operator hours, increasing laundry costs considerably. The risk of stoppages also increases as the machine gets older and this affects both the laundry's finances and its relations with its customers.

To keep up to date with current processes: Linen types, processes and chemicals change over time. Tunnel washer design needs to adapt to such changes. For example, Girbau's TBS50 tunnel washer has programs for Ozone washing as well as for other methods.

Can a tunnel washer process hospital linen hygienically?

Yes, providing the tunnel washer is designed to meet hygiene standards. Girbau's TBS50 Hygien has a specific wash program for hospital linen and in addition a series of features to meet health sector demands.

The *thermostop* function guarantees that each batch is processed at the programmed temperature and time.

To guarantee traceability, the computer on

Girbau's TBS system records the washing, pressing and drying parameters for each batch and can print reports when the centre's rules require it.

The TBS50 disinfection program is designed to provide thermal disinfection of the complete tunnel washer system including the washer, its manifolds and its tanks. Full thermal and/or chemical disinfection of the machine can only be provided by washers such as the TBS50 Hygien, which incorporates an outer drum and steam entry in each module.

Why do I need an automatic feeder for my ironer?

Automatic feeders improve both the ironer's quality and productivity.

Quality: Automatic feeders use mechanical devices that centre linen to an accuracy of 1mm – this is difficult to achieve manually. Girbau's DRF feeder incorporates specific systems that achieve perfect feeding quality.

Productivity: Manual feeding produces 400 – 500 sheets per hour depending on the operators' skill. Automatic feeders can handle 600 – 1,200 sheets/hour. The rate depends on the type of machine and the operators' skill is less important.

When do I need an automatic feeder?

Laundries should consider installing an automatic feeder if labour accounts for a major part of the operation's overall costs or when manual systems do not keep up with the required production or quality standards. However automated feeding will not solve these problems if the flatwork ironer and the folding systems cannot match feeder rates.

Should a flatwork ironer have a flexible or rigid chest?

Flexible chests allow for a significant reduction in manufacturing costs but for Girbau this does not make sense if the reduction is achieved at the expense of quality. Girbau customers' satisfaction with flatwork ironers with rigid chests, plus the technical problems that have been detected in flexible chests were important factors in the decision to manufacture the company's PSN80 and PC120 flatwork ironers with rigid chests. The company has also rejected the semi-rigid chest system as the flexible parts of these chests may have cold spots, which reduce the finish quality.

What factors should be considered in the choice of gas ironer?

The choice will be influenced not just by the type of chest but also by the boiler, which is a critical factor. It is important to maximise energy efficiency to achieve the best performance. Girbau's PSN80 and PC120 ironers have boilers with an efficiency of more than 90%. This is because their diameter is large enough to allow the burner to be used at maximum power without the risk of the flame coming into contact with the coil. The boilers also have an exclusive internal design that increases their performance enormously.

Does the laundry need a boiler room?

Girbau has gas-heated flatwork ironers, dryers and tunnel finishers for garments and these all have autonomous heating systems built in. This avoids the need for costly, high capacity, high-pressure boilers.



Reducing the size and complexity of the boiler room minimises energy losses and also reduces maintenance and the safety risks involved in this kind of installation.

Currently steam is only required for the washer-extractors, tunnel washers and the sprays in the tunnel finishers. So steam only needs to be at half pressure and there is no need for condensation recovery systems. A small, straightforward boiler is all that is necessary and this type of steam system needs less maintenance and fewer safety measures than the traditional boiler room.

Every question has an answer but that answer has to meet the individual laundry's needs so the response can vary from customer to customer.

For this reason, Girbau offers its customers a free assessment of their laundry's requirements and a laundry project planning service, which is delivered via an extensive commercial worldwide network.

Girbau has subsidiaries in Germany, Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, China, France, India, the United Arab Emirates, the United States and the United Kingdom. These subsidiaries work with a network of dealers covering more than 90 countries to provide the laundry with technical or commercial assistance quickly whenever it is needed. Girbau is fully committed to making sure that laundries receive the rapid response that is essential to their peace of mind.

Recently the company introduced Girbau Laundry Tips (GLT), a consultancy service that advises on queries related to laundry processes – for example problems such as stains, tears, whiteness or designing a plan for moving linen round the laundry.

Fifty years' experience of working with industrial laundries allows Girbau to make the easiest and best solutions a reality. **LCNI**

MAKE SAVINGS AND KEEP UP TO DATE: Girbau's TBS50 tunnel washers save water and energy, minimise maintenance and are designed to accommodate developments in processing

ENERGY EFFICIENT DESIGN: Girbau's PC120 Ironer incorporates a boiler with over 90% efficiency, allowing the ironer to consistently achieve its best performance

