

# LAUNDRY AND CLEANING NEWS

- LCN Interview
- Angry customers
- Scanning ID systems

**Solutions to fit  
customer needs**



**GIRBAU**

# The key to success in



# laundry design

***The Lavandex laundry is proof that the Spanish equipment manufacturer Girbau can offer a complete solution for a global market***

Spanish company Girbau is a leading manufacturer of industrial machines for world class laundries, and it can help its customers achieve the highest profitability by designing an installation that is precisely tailored to their particular needs.

The Lavandex laundry, near Barcelona (Spain), provides an example of an industrial operation that has shown optimal profit by working exclusively with Girbau machinery.

Lavandex is situated in Malgrat de Mar in the heart of the Costa Brava.

Inaugurated in June 2001, Lavandex specialises in processing laundry from the hotels of the Costa Brava.

The operation is prepared to respond efficiently and effectively to its high production requirements and so the owner didn't hesitate in trusting Girbau, a leader in the manufacture of laundry equipment, to put forth a plan for a facility with the highest possible performance.

"For many years at my small laundry I worked with Girbau machines and so when I needed to expand production capacity, I didn't hesitate to turn to them," affirms Lavandex director, Sergi Monge.

To satisfy the needs of this large installation, Girbau designed a laundry facility that could comfortably process an average of 10,000kg/day of hotel laundry in one working shift.

One of the challenges posed by this new plant was that it needed the ability to process the different types of laundry generated by the area's hotels. Table linen is 30% of the total production, while 45% is towelling. This meant the plant had to be equipped with dryers of large capacity and of excellent performance as well as having an appropriate washing process for the characteristics of table linen.

"Girbau has shown me that its worldwide prestige is not limited to traditional machines, but that it is able to design a large production

plant and equip it with the latest generation machines.

"The key to the success of my laundry was a clear concept of what a laundry facility consists – a project adjusted to my needs, reliable machines and great performance, as well as the fulfilment of a wholly satisfactory start up", adds Mr. Monge.

While making the introductory and viability studies, Girbau took both the rational distribution of space and the establishment of the clear flow of laundry circulation within the facility, very much

**DRYER POWER:**  
With 45% of its production devoted to towels, Lavandex needed large efficient dryers. Girbau's ST100 satisfy this demand





into account.

The main area of the installation is the washing section. This is equipped with a Girbau TBS50/12 batch washer, capable of achieving a production of 1,450 kg/h of hotel laundry (25minutes total washing process) with high quality wash results and minimum water consumption.

On the same production line, four Girbau ST100 automatic dryers with 100kg capacity have been installed. The

excellent performance and the high heating power of these dryers are based on their G20 innovative system of natural gas heating, along with the high flow of air which circulates in the dryer's interior. With a heating power of 289kW, each dryer is able to dry 100kg of towelling in 23minutes.

The washing area is completed with an additional washing section equipped with two Girbau HS4110 washer-extractors with a capacity for 110kg of laundry each, one HS4040 washer-extractor (40kg laundry capacity) and one HS4022 washer-

extractor (22kg of laundry).

In the ironing area, two complete lines have been installed for the finishing of flat linen (bed and table linen).

On the first of these lines, one Girbau PS8035/3 flatwork ironer (with three cylinders of 800mm diameter and 3,500mm length) has been installed and this machine is able to carry out an average production of 1,000 sheets per hour, with automatic feeding, folding, and stacking.

The second ironing line is equipped with a Girbau PS8035/2 flatwork ironer (two cylinders of 800mm diameter and 3,500mm length) with a general purpose folder installed at the end. This line is used to iron items such as pillowcases, tablecloths, napkins, and covers.

The laundry also has an area for automatic folding which is equipped with two Jean Michel Saturno Tri folders to handle towels and similar items. Each machine achieves 1,100 pieces/ hour.

The high production quality demanded for table and bed linen means a high requirement for folding, and for this reason a Jean Michel Varistar folder (1,200 pieces/ hour) has been installed.

All feeding, folding and stacking machines have been manufactured by the Societé Jean Michel, which was recently incorporated into the Girbau Group. This incorporation has meant that Girbau can widen its range of products, especially for installations with high volume production needs. ■

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**TAILORED TO NEEDS:**  
Lavandex works exclusively with machines from the Girbau Group:  
1) the main wash area with the TBS50B/12 batch washer  
2) an additional wash area with washer - extractors  
3) the ironing area, and 4) the folding area

## Girbau's batch washer – a star for large laundries

Girbau markets a wide range of products for industrial laundries and aims to achieve customer satisfaction whatever their production needs may be.

It was with this goal in mind that, Girbau designed the TBS50 batch washer, a machine of the latest generation which breaks barriers and is said to greatly outperform other batch washers in today's market. The design of this revolutionary Girbau batch washer relies on three main principals.

**Mechanical innovation:** The TBS50 batch washer is a heavy-duty machine of very simple construction. It has been designed by applying current engineering techniques to both minimise and optimise the number of machine parts.

Its modular concept allows the machine to be adapted to each laundry's specific needs.

In each module, all the accessories that the washing process requires can be installed, such as: one weir box, one sensor level, one heating system, more than four product intakes, two independent water inlets, two drain electro-valves, and two independent exit ducts, etc.

**High efficiency:** This results from a well planned machine that is constructed to perform an excellent laundry washing process. The top transfer provides a maximal diameter pass-through and the mechanical action of its eight blades, together with a reduced space between the inner and outer drums, ensure a highly effective washing process with mini-



mum water, steam and detergent consumption. To wash laundry with the Girbau TBS50 batch washer is to wash it in a simple way with maximum effectiveness of the detergents used.

**Reliability:** The reliability of the TBS50 batch washer is guaranteed. Girbau's research and development team performed complex calculations, using computer simulations of the machine's behaviour under the toughest working conditions in order to later subject prototypes to these exhaustive laboratory tests.

After going through this rigorous process, the Girbau TBS50 batch washer was built, based on the company's experience and know-how which it has demonstrated continually in the manufacture of washers, renowned worldwide for their quality.

The transport costs of the Girbau TBS50 batch washer are low. Thanks to its reduced exterior dimensions, the TBS50 batch washer is shipped, completely finished and assembled, in a single container. This means that installing and commissioning the machine is fast, simple and easy.