The French company Jean Michel is now part of the GIRBAU Group (page 7)

The HS-4110 washer extractor completes the range of the HS-4000 series (page 8)

Continental GIRBAU Inc. Uses Pro-Series™ as a Springboard to Unique Market Opportunities (page 11)

The subsidiary of GIRBAU in the United Arab Emirates celebrates its first year (page 12)

The certifications obtained by GIRBAU confirm the quality culture of the company (page 14)

NEW HS-5008 WASHER EXTRACTOR: THE GREAT INNOVATION OF GIRBAU, S.A.
The 8 kg capacity makes it ideal for small establishments

The new HS-5008 washer extractor is the proof that GIRBAU, S.A. has been able to adapt its wide experience in the industrial laundry field down to nearer the domestic level.

With 8 kg capacity, the new washer extractor has been designed and manufactured to satisfy the needs of small establishments: coin-op laundries, nursing home, rural guests house, gyms, camping, etc.

The new GIRBAU washer extractor offers great advantages to these establishments when compared to domestic washing machines. The new HS-5008 has a bigger load capacity, does shorter and more efficient wash cycles and the price is very competitive. The result is a spectacular increase of laundry output. GIRBAU, S.A., is convinced about the success of its new product and has not hesitated in building a new factory and in installing an automated production line for the HS-5008. It is financially better to buy the HS-5008 washer extractor not only by its high production capacity and energy saving but also because the new washer extractor assures a life five times longer than a domestic washing machine. Moreover, GIRBAU has designed the HS-5008 concentrating on its ease of use. The new washer extractor incorporates a large access door that makes loading and unloading easier, and a drawer with 4 self-cleaning dispensers.

GIRBAU, IN HOSTELCO

The Hostelco exhibition, that will take place between the 23rd and the 27th October in Montjuic, Barcelona, will be one of the main shop windows of GIRBAU products this year.

Some other important show meetings this year for GIRBAU are: TExcare Asia (9th-11th May, Hong Kong), Hôpital Expo (21st-24th May, Paris) and Expo Detergo International (8th-11th November, Milan).

THE NEW GIRBAU ST-100 DRYER

This year GIRBAU S.A. introduces to the market the ST-100 dryer to satisfy the drying needs of the large laundries. With 100 kg capacity, the new drier offers an optimal output and a high evaporation capacity that guarantees a high drying efficiency.

The new ST-100 dryer from GIRBAU has a mechanism that allows unloading the clothes with the blower stopped and without tilting.

The ST-100 dryer is perfectly adapted to the GIRBAU TBS-50 batch washer. Due to its capacity, it’s also an ideal size for larger installations that, even if they don’t have a batch washer, process large volumes of linen.
Attending to normal daily work matters doesn’t allow us to have an overall view of GIRBAU’s transformation over the last few months. Looking at the outline of Laundry Review by GIRBAU issue 3, I’ve realised that our company has experienced a very important change.

The incorporation of Jean Michel, a leading enterprise in its sector in the French market, has given an extraordinary impulse in the project and achievement of the large automated industrial laundries. Jean Michel complements our continuous washing tunnels and our ironing installations and opens the doors to the most important companies involved in linen renting, centralised laundries, and to the largest hospitals and hotels.

But there have been more changes: the completion of the 4000 series washer extractors with the 110 kg capacity model. The launching of the high capacity ST-100 dryer. The achievement of UN EN ISO-14001 standard and the renovation of the ISO-9001.

However, I want to highlight the launching of the new HS-5008 washing machine that represents the biggest technological and economical effort ever done by GIRBAU, S.A. It implies a new design concept and automated manufacturing and that’s why we have increased our production area by 8.600 m2 with a new building.

I want to thank the people from our company for their effort and enthusiasm and our clients for their support.
GIRBAU S.A. has not hesitated about building a new factory and installing an automatic production line for the new HS-5008. Having the objective to fully satisfy the needs of the small establishments, GIRBAU has worked to achieve a machine that will adapt to their needs, with more load capacity, shorter and more effective wash cycles and at a very competitive price.

GIRBAU R & D team has made sure that the work with the new HS-5008 will be as effective and comfortable as possible. Therefore, they have manufactured a machine with large access door making it easier to load and unload, along with a large detergent drawer with four self-cleaning dispensers.

The machine programming is also very easy. The control panel is simple and accurate. Other advantages that the user will appreciate about the HS-5008 are: the facility for the machine programme to be started with time delay, its soundless operation and the fact that it doesn’t need a lot of space or bolting-down. It even allows stacking of a compatible dryer.

A life five times longer than a domestic washing machine

GIRBAU S.A. is convinced that due to its features, HS-5008 is ideal for coin-op laundries, valet washing in hotels, holiday cottages, hairdressers, gyms and all type of establishments.

VIKING GETS THE WRAS CERTIFICATION FOR THE HS-5008

Viking Laundry Equipment, GIRBAU’s branch in the United Kingdom, has obtained the WRAS certification for the new washer extractor HS-5008. Water Board Approval certifies that wash water cannot be returned to the water supply network.

 HS-5008 design incorporates both mechanical & materials testing to obtain the WRAS certificate. Similarly other 13 kg & 22 kg high spin machine have also received this accreditation.

Viking Laundry Equipment. A further change in Viking’s image has been to design a new logo.
TUMBLE DRYER
SECADOR ROTATIVO
SECHOIR ROTATIF

ST-100

Excellent throughput
Optimo rendimiento
Rendement optimum

Unique features
Características exclusivas
Caractéristiques exclusives

www.girbau.com

High performance
Altas prestaciones
Hautes prestations
FIVE REASONS FOR GIRBAU’S PRODUCT SUCCESS

The design process of our products has five distinct phases

SECOND PHASE: CALCULATION
The calculation phase with the Finite Elements Method (FEM) defines geometrically the critical parts to determine the weak points of the mechanical resistance and therefore we obtain a very reliable parts dimensioning. The FEM secures the life of the machine and avoids repeating tests with the real parts. Through the FEM calculations, manual, which provides the guidelines, to take into account the design of any GIRBAU product.

FOURTH PHASE: PROTOTYPES TESTS
When all the parts are defined and the specifications of the drawings are detailed, the first prototypes are made. This is the test phase.
- Prototype structural test: the mechanical resistance and therefore the life of the machine starts. After carrying out all these tests, the life of the machine begins.
- Prototype complete test: the laboratory team and the engineering one until the prototype is put to the test.

THIRD PHASE: DESIGN
After having certified the parts resistance of the future product, it starts the design phase. The entire machine is drawn, with all its components and the specifications of each part. The design phase is performed following the instructions of a mechanical structure of the prototype is put to the test. The prototype is subject to different test, among them the one of extensometry, to validate the calculations obtained by the Finite Elements Method and to pass different mechanical fatigue or life tests to assure the product resistance.
- Prototype complete test: the operation of the software is tested and some tests of energy and water consumption are done. The target is to obtain the minimal consumption possible, following the guidelines of ISO 14001.

FIRST PHASE: PRODUCT DEFINITION
The definition phase starts when the GIRBAU Engineering Department receives new demands from the market through the information of the Commercial Department, the setting, the clients, etc. The Engineering Department Director, Ramon Sans, is certain that “this phase is decisive. It is here where we identify the market”. The Product Committee of GIRBAU (general management, commercial direction and technical direction) opens a round of meetings to define exactly the objective to pursue. In this phase are defined all the technical specifications, the dimensions, the software, the functions and the aesthetic design that the new product will have. The definition is so detailed that we even obtain a virtual image in 3D of the future product that is the same as the real final product.

PHASE 1: Product Committee meeting
PHASE 2: FEM calculation
PHASE 3: Prototype parts design
PHASE 4: Laboratory tests
PHASE 5: Check of the finished product
GIRAFE
NEPTUNE AUTOMATIQUE
NEPTUNE
EASY FEED
MAX FEED
ORION
PLUTON
PAV
EMPIEUR A NAVETTE
EMPIEUR ROTATIF
EMPIEUR MULTIWOYES
LYNX
DEROULEUR
SATURNE MEGA
ENROULEUR
TRANSPILES
CERVORAIL

73100 Grisy-sur-Aix - Z.I. Aix Nord - Tel. 33 4 79 34 80 80 - Fax 33 4 79 34 84 43
jm@jeanmichel.fr - www.jeanmichel.fr
THE FRENCH COMPANY JEAN MICHEL BECOMES PART OF THE GIRBAU GROUP

This union lets GIRBAU complete the whole range of large laundry installations.

The relationship between the two companies is not new: GIRBAU has been a customer of Jean Michel for more than 25 years. GIRBAU manufactures washer-extractors, flatwork ironers and tunnel washers, but they needed Jean Michel’s feeders, folders and air transport systems to complete their laundry installations.

This excellent relationship between the companies, built up over the years, has meant that the agreement is good news for both parties.

The Chairman of the GIRBAU Group, Pere Girbau, gave a very positive assessment of the operation because "on one side, Jean Michel is a company with a large presence in the French market and this will help promote GIRBAU’s sales there. On the other side, the operation will round off the range of GIRBAU products on sale throughout the world."

The combination of 2 world leaders Future prospects are very bright for Jean Michel: by bringing GIRBAU into their body of shareholder they will experience considerable gains both in short-term growth and in exports.

The operation brings together two leaders in their respective segments. The GIRBAU Group has become a world leader in the manufacture of industrial laundry machinery, while Jean Michel is one of the most outstanding manufacturers worldwide in its particular product range. And the similarities do not end there. The two are also family businesses - the son of Jean Michel’s founder, Nicolas Baboz, will continue at the head of the French company as General Manager.

R+D Synergies Synergies will also favour the work of the R+D departments of both companies. The continuous flow of information between GIRBAU S.A. and Jean Michel R+D teams will benefit both parties.

A HISTORY GOING BACK ALMOST 40 YEARS

- Jean Michel S.A. was founded in 1964 by Michel Baboz and Jean Guillemin (the latter gave up his interests in the company during the 80s). Its present head is Nicolas Baboz.
- Current staff: 80 employees (15 in the R+D Department).
- Premises: 6,500 m2 building.
- Products manufactured: Feeders, folders and air transport systems for large laundry installations.
The incorporation of the GDRIVE to this model reduces notably the energy consumption and increases its performance.

To provide a fast and quality delivery system at the minimum cost is not easy in any company, and in the case of GIRBAU, where so many models are manufactured with a high number of options for each model, it is still more difficult.

Having the goal to provide a delivery period of 2 or 3 weeks, GIRBAU has developed a complex system of organised production that allows the factory to comply with the delivery requirement and, at the same time, to have a good stock rotation.

Production programming and stocks management

Computer software for production management allows us to evaluate statistically each of the multiple options of our models. The key to good programming is to hit the consumption projections in each option.

A good management system guarantees the fast service to our clients with optimal stock levels.

The versatility of the operators adapt to the production needs. Another problem is the variety of manufacturing options, one of which is the demands in the posts. That is, each machine model has a specific production needs and requires the services of a specific section.

Therefore, depending on the model type demanded, it is necessary to reinforce one section or another.

The solution is to have a list of posts ready to adapt to the manufacturing needs in each moment. GIRBAU has achieved it. Most of its operators are versatile and are able to work in different sections. Without them and their efforts, the progress of GIRBAU wouldn’t be possible.

In addition to a good preparation and to their commitment to their work, the GIRBAU staff in factory has the technical and documentation support realised by the Production Engineering Department. Each operator receives from this department documentation with the drawing of the product to be manufactured, the manufacture phases and some control rules of the tasks to be done.

The factory adaptability to any production process demanded is completed by a large external collaborators network that manufacture the pieces that GIRBAU needs.

Vertical lift storage system to make easier materials management

Time is precious when talking about serving the client with efficiency. GIRBAU has recently installed a vertical lift storage system that allows a very fast spare location, since the conventional organisation has changed to an integration of all the operating system.

The implantation of this new system has provided a floor surface reduction for the material and components storage in the factory.

All these elements, combined with GIRBAU staff make it possible to provide satisfaction to our clients.

**HS-4110: THE GIRBAU WASHER EXTRACTOR THAT COMPLETES THE 4000 RANGE**

The incorporation of the GDRIVE to this model reduces notably the energy consumption and increases its performance.

The new HS-4110 washer extractor operates with low water and energy consumption regardless of the work phase it is doing. GIRBAU has achieved this design and manufacture, which will analyse at any time its own operation, protecting itself against the possible internal and external effects.

It incorporates low power consumption and reduces the starting peak currents of the motor by up to 70%. This way for its implantation it’s not necessary neither important electrical connections nor the installation of expensive electrical protections which implies savings in installation costs.

The HS-4110 washer extractor has been designed to offer optimal performance and the highest productivity, together with an effective mechanical action and optimal treatment of different types of textile.

Thanks to the GDRIVE system of this model, it has several advantages: up to six rotation speeds with only one motor, an integral control of the imbalances, controlled acceleration and braking, an important reduction of the noise and vibrations, a lengthening of the mechanical life of the washer extractor and a wide voltage tolerance of power supply.
Designed and built with high quality components, the ST-100 dryer gives an optimal output and, at the same time, a high evaporation capacity which guarantees a high efficiency of the drying. The loading capacity of the new dryer ST-100 is 127 kg (R 1:20) and 100 kg (R 1:25), with gas, steam and hot oil heating. The sequential dryer GIRBAU ST-100 is a perfect unit to install next to the GIRBAU Batch Washer TBS-50. The excellent output this dryer gives allows the installation which is able to dry 100% of the linen produced by the batch washer (TBS-50/12 batch washer with five ST-100 dryers).

Due to their capacity, they become an ideal component for those installations that do not have a batch washer, but handle large quantities of clothes daily. For example, a hotel with washing and drying needs of 200kg/h of towel textiles could perfectly operate with two HS-4110 washer extractors and one autonomous ST-100 dryer with a manual load conveyor. In this way, the washer extractors will produce a wash cycle of one hour each (processing 200 kg of clothes) whereas the ST-100 dryer will process the production of both machines (in half an hour batch, the dryer produces 100 kg).

In this case, the ST-100 is perfectly adaptable to any future installation with a batch washer. Easy access to all parts and innovative unloading system The dryer ST-100 design has been made thinking that its big technical and production capacities will be completed by its friendly use for the user. Therefore, the ST-100 can be installed with walkways to allow access to the top of the dryers, thus giving safe access for control and inspection. They have also been designed to make the automatic unloading process as easier as possible. GIRBAU adds to the ST-100 a mechanism that allows the unloading with the blower stopped and without tilting (exclusive Girbau patent). The absence of airflow to evacuate the clothes prevents heat loss to atmosphere within the laundry and decreases pollution given out.

Automatic cleaning, cool-down and Teflon coating options The new ST-100 dryer has a wide range of options to adapt it to the needs of the client. The automatic cleaning of the filter is very interesting. When the filter is saturated, the dryer makes an automatic cleaning cycle, after which the filter is clean, and this procedure doesn’t harm the machine output. In the case of the installations where there can be plastics mixed with the textiles to be washed (in the hospitals, for example), the ST-100 has as an option a Teflon coating to prevent these materials adhesion to the drum due to the high temperature. Another option is the cool-down (cooling cycle before unloading).

The large laundries and the hotel laundries in particular, need a large capacity of drying due to the type of textiles they’re used to wash. GIRBAU presents the best solution: the ST-100 dryer.

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STI GIRBAU TUMBLE DRYERS RANGE GIRBAU extends its range of tumbler dryers for laundry installations. The new STI tumble dryers are available in 12 kg, 22 kg, 30 kg (new) and 45 kg version.

They are designed and built with high quality components, assuring an optimal output. Their high evaporation capacity and their constructive features assure high efficiency of drying. Thanks to a powerful and generously sized heating coil, together with the large flow-rate provided by the blower, an airflow with the correct percentage of heated air is obtained.

Its control by the microprocessor allows doing multiple functions in an easy and simple way. This versatile microprocessor allows working with different drying programs. In each one of them it is possible to introduce multiple parameters such as drying time, cooling time, cool-down features, etc.

Another feature of the STI range is the filter location in the front to make the cleaning tasks easier. The STI tumble dryers by GIRBAU are efficient, compatible with the environment, sustainable and with a high load capacity.
Point. Click. Plan.

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Laundry room productivity is just a click away.
Introduce yourself to Continental’s web site resource center, specifically designed to give you the power to plan. You can view Continental’s entire product line, locate your nearby distributor, match equipment to your specific laundry needs, and take a tour of an existing laundry facility. Just point and click to discover all of the turn-key services that Continental offers—all FREE and available to you 24 hours a day; 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

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FAX (920) 231-4666 • www.cont-girbau.com
Continental Uses Pro-Series as a Springboard to Unique Market Opportunities

In a US market populated by "hard-mount" machines, the new series of soft-mount washer extractors manufactured by Girbau is getting attention with the country's more recent concerns of energy efficiency and productivity.

Marketed by Continental as the Pro-Series line, the soft-mount design with G-drive technology has given Continental the ability to pursue and capture new and unique market opportunities.

"The Pro-Series machines give laundry operators in unique markets the flexibility they require to greatly impact equipment performance and efficiency," stated Mike Floyd, Executive Vice President of Continental. Whether it is a fire department concerned about the processing of their expensive turnout gear, or a nursing home interested in a machine that they can install on the second level of their building, giving these facilities the ability to control the factors that matter to them most has resulted in an explosion of new market opportunities for Continental.

The microprocessor control can further reduce utility and labor cost through programmed controls.

The programmable high extraction speeds eliminate the need for drying the towels at all.

The programmable high extraction speeds eliminate the need for drying the towels at all. This not only saves on labor costs, but also decreases the linen damage and increases the life of the towels. Pro-Series washer extractors also give them the durability of an industrial washer that they need while saving energy and utility costs.

Pro-Series washers featuring new G-Drive technology are available in 18, 30, 55, 90, 130 and 255-pound capacities. They are perfectly matched with the Continental’s Pro-Series high performance tumbler dryer line and flatwork ironer line to ensure fast, efficient throughput. All are backed by the company’s 5-year/3-year limited parts warranty and a nationwide distribution and parts network to help customers keep their laundries fully functional and productive.

Continental Girbau, Inc., is the US subsidiary of Girbau S.A., based in Vic (Barcelona), Spain. For more information about Pro-Series washer extractors or Continental’s extensive line of commercial and industrial laundry equipment, contact: Continental Girbau Inc., at (800) 256-1073, Fax (920) 231-4666 or visit www.cont-girbau.com.

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In its thirty-year history, GIRBAU’s dealer in Galicia has achieved a major presence there. Directed by Mr. José Manuel Muñoz and his son Miguel, the office has achieved 60% of the hotel sector market share in Galicia; 100% of the public hospitals in the area use GIRBAU machinery. The numbers are equally optimistic with regard to the dry-cleaning sector: of the 360 dry-cleaning businesses in Galicia, more than 120 are clients of the GIRBAU dealer.

GIRBAU introduction in Galicia is very satisfactory. Mr. Muñoz’s great professionalism and extensive knowledge of the sector have been proven through his provision of an advisory service and monitoring of his clients’ installations down to the last detail. GIRBAU offers its clients machinery that are easier to use and more comfortable and environmentally friendly.

With 30 years of experience in the sector, Mr. Muñoz has seen the evolution of GIRBAU machinery up close, especially the introduction of electronics, which has allowed the company to offer new, friendly machines. Electronics have led to more comfortable and environmentally friendly machines. With 30 years of experience in the sector, Mr. Muñoz has seen the evolution of GIRBAU machinery up close, especially the introduction of electronics, which has allowed the company to offer new, friendly machines. Electronics have led to more comfortable and environmentally friendly machines.

All those responsible for GIRBAU Middle East FZC (G.M.E) are very satisfied with the results that GIRBAU subsidiary has achieved in the United Arab Emirates in only one year. The facilities of the subsidiary were inaugurated on the 13th of March 2001.

GIRBAU Middle East is located in the Jebel Ali Free Zone area, an industrial zone that allows the GIRBAU Group to distribute its products both in the United Arab Emirates (60% of sales), and in the Middle East countries. Newmatic Trading Co. continues the responsibility of distributing the GIRBAU products in the Emirates, as it has done in the past. The creation of a new GIRBAU subsidiary in the area took shape due to the strong sales increase in the Middle East area and the increase in demand of GIRBAU machinery. With the construction of new hotels, the laundry needs increased. This explains the progressive growth of GIRBAU products.

Anyway, the Dubai subsidiary also includes hospitals, industrial laundries, dry cleaners, etc. among its customers. Jordi Bosch, President of GIRBAU Middle East FZC, states that “the importance of this subsidiary is strategic because it allows the sales extension of GIRBAU to the countries in the area such as Yemen, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Palestine, Pakistan and exsoviet countries, as well as Dubai and the rest of Emirates”. For 2002, the subsidiary management goes for a continuous and sustained growth.

New 600 m² facilities

The Dubai subsidiary facilities use an area of 600 m², of which 50 m² is used as offices and the rest is used for storage and the technical service department.

Dubai and the rest of Emirates”.

For 2002, the subsidiary management goes for a continuous and sustained growth.

A sales team and qualified office staff make up the human resources of the United Arab Emirates subsidiary. Some examples of facilities that GIRBAU Middle East have provided for are hotels for the Sheraton chain in Nigeria, Yemen, Dubai and the Hilton hotels in Dubai.

The results of 2001 have slightly exceeded the planned expectations.

For 2002, the subsidiary management goes for a continuous and sustained growth.

The Dubai subsidiary is an international bridge for all the area.

“All those responsible for GIRBAU Middle East FZC (G.M.E) are very satisfied with the results that GIRBAU subsidiary has achieved in the United Arab Emirates in only one year.”

The inauguration event consisted of a welcome dinner and a visit to the new GIRBAU Middle East facilities. The President of the GIRBAU Group, Pere Girbau, and Majd Abulaban, director of the subsidiary, gave a speech to underline the strategic importance of the subsidiary for the GIRBAU Group. According to Majd Abulaban, “the Dubai subsidiary becomes an international bridge for the whole area. Dubai and its free zone in the Jebel Ali Free Zone is the perfect point to cover a great many customers and countries.”

Abulaban also referred to the task performed by Newmatic Trading Co. and he assured that “from Newmatic we have given technical service and sales to different countries as for example Siberia, Nigeria, Azerbaijan, etc. This will also be the spirit of the new subsidiary.”

The office management has been entrusted to its two directors, Majd Abulaban and Mounzer Wakil. Both of them know perfectly the Middle East market and they both have an impeccable career in representing laundry machinery.

For 2002, the subsidiary management goes for a continuous and sustained growth.

A sales team and qualified office staff make up the human resources of the United Arab Emirates subsidiary.

Some examples of facilities that GIRBAU Middle East have provided for are hotels for the Sheraton chain in Nigeria, Yemen, Dubai and the Hilton hotels in Dubai.

The team has accomplished all their expectations and keeps working to improve the subsidiary results during 2002.

“Dubai and the rest of Emirates”.

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One of the main guidelines that direct the financial politics of GIRBAU is to set aside most part of the profits generated to proper funds, strengthening the financial structure of the company. To assure the future of GIRBAU, every year the board establishes:
- The objectives for new technological developments, in both Research and Development activities, expanding and improving the productive installations.
- The consolidation and internationalisation of their commercial network, with technical assistance services and customer help service.
- The training plans, for the internal personnel and for the sales and services personnel.
- The establishment of new information technologies, improvement of the administrative process and communication among the departments (informatics integration).

All this implies important investments, essential to keep our leading position in the world market. Most of the investments in R+D+I+T (Research, Development and Technological Innovation and Training plans of the personnel) don’t appear in the Fixed assets of the company, and they are part of the operating costs. GIRBAU, S.A. sets aside about 4% of its annual invoicing to the R+D+I+T for realising different research and development projects of new machines and technologies. The 28 people working in the Engineering department, Laboratory, Tools and Prototype Department and Documentation in both factories of GIRBAU in Vic, work for the creation of new products.

The administrative department functions
The professional team of the Administrative Department in GIRBAU, S.A., establishes:
- The financial budget of each year, according to the investments to be applied.
- Information criteria for the direction, commercial and sales areas.
- Budget control
- Administration and accounts.

### DISTRIBUTION OF THE ADDED VALUE GENERATED IN 2000

- **Staff**
- **Financial expenses**
- **State**
- **Shareholders**
- **Auto-financing**

### INVESTMENTS IN 2000-2001 AND INVESTMENT FORECAST IN 2002

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<tr>
<td>Participation in subsidiaries and other financial assets</td>
<td>596</td>
<td>5088</td>
<td>3033</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
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<td>Fixed assets material</td>
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<td>841</td>
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<td>1800</td>
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<tr>
<td>R+D+I+T (*)</td>
<td>1360</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td>2100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount accumulated</td>
<td>3824</td>
<td>7779</td>
<td>8966</td>
<td>4500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Research, Development, Technological Innovation and Training plans
**Numbers in thousands of Euros
From the beginning, GIRBAU S.A has progressively increased its autoexigence levels not only to improve its productivity but also to be sure that its production process guarantees the quality, security and protection of the environment.

The philosophy behind these certifications is not a race to win titles. That is not the way it is understood by GIRBAU, the common target is to guarantee to the clients, the employees, suppliers and environment that everything in the company is done correctly.

GIRBAU was one of the pioneer enterprises in Spain in obtaining, twenty years ago, the CSA (Canada Standard Association) certification of electrical safety of their products. Further on, they obtained the German certification GS, the most stringent in Europe in terms of safety. Europe has established the CE label and created some specific directives and standards for each product. The GIRBAU products carry out these different directives. For example, the washer extractors conform with the directives of machine safety, low tension and electromagnetic compatibility. The gas ironers, besides the previous directives, carry the gas devices directive.

It is important to mention the correct fulfilment of the machine safety directive and the low-tension directive that through a careful risks analysis allow the design of a completely safe product. The electromagnetic compatibility that was certified through the "Laboratori General d’Assaigs i Investigacions" (LGAI Testing Laboratory) guarantees that the GIRBAU products are protected against both electromagnetic interferences, the active ones and the passive ones. That is, they don’t emit interferences that could damage their environment, and they are not interfered by external emissions.

The obsession for the quality and the environment

The recent company certifications obtained by GIRBAU are those related to quality and environment protection, two basic axes that follow the policy promoted by GIRBAU. The ISO 9001, obtained in 1996, guarantees that the GIRBAU products have been designed and manufactured following the pre-established procedures in the quality manual.

The Technical director, Ramon Sans, assures that "in GIRBAU, quality is one of our obsessions. We design our products always thinking in a quality market. We start at the point where the others stop". The quality of the products is possible thanks to the responsibility of the human team in GIRBAU.

In parallel to the quality, the environment protection is another of GIRBAU’s priorities. In 2001, the company obtained the ISO 14001 certification that guarantees: an "ecological" design (parts completely recyclable, low energy consumption of the machines), the minimisation of waste and the use of materials that are respectful of the environment during the production process.

To fulfil the requirements of this certification GIRBAU made important decisions and investments like: change of combustible fuel, from oil to natural gas, monitoring of the subsoil contamination and later make it waterproof, change in the surface treatment process, edition of a manual and procedures of the Environmental Management System, new painting line, minimisation of waste, energy saving, control of the atmospheric contamination, sonometric controls, etc.

The application of these certifications also promotes the continuous training of the GIRBAU staff. Nowadays, constant improvements are made day by day that reaffirm the principles of the environmental policy of GIRBAU, S.A.

During this year an evaluation of the suppliers will be done to know the degree of fulfilment of their environmental objectives. The purpose is to expand the policy of the environment protection to our environment in a progressive way.
GIRBAU WILL BE IN HOSTELCO 2002 IN A STAND OF 500 SQ.M.

One of the most important shows for GIRBAU, S.A in the exhibitions calendar of this year is Hostelco, the International Restaurants, Hotels and Community Equipment exhibition. The meeting will take place between the 23rd and the 27th October in the pavilions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and Z6 in Montjuïc, Barcelona. The visitors could go to the halls between 10.00 and 19.00.

In Hostelco, GIRBAU, S.A will show all the range of products that it manufactures in a stand of 500 sq.m. Hostelco 2002, is organised by Fira de Barcelona and FEALC Institutional and Related Industries’ Equipment Manufacturers’ Association with the collaboration of most representative industrial associations. It is the most important exhibition in Spain and among the three most important in Europe within this sector.

The show has become an important meeting point of manufacturers, dealers, installers and users of this sector. The visitors can see on the GIRBAU stand the new products of this year: the new HS-5008 washer extractor, the ST-100 dryer, the complete range of HS-4000 washer extractors and the products of Jean Michel, recently incorporated to the GIRBAU group.

Visitors, apart from these new products could also see other GIRBAU products like the spectacular batch washers.

TEXCARE ASIA, HOPITAL EXPO AND EXPO DETERGO INTERNATIONAL

The Chinese legislation is more and more exigent in terms of environmental protection and this forces the hotel, hospital and other laundries to renew their machines.

The changing situation of the Chinese market favours the expansion of companies like GIRBAU that see the possibility to make contacts in Texcare Asia to expand their already important international presence.

GIRBAU will show in this edition as star, the HS-5008 washer extractor, the ST-100 dryer and the HS-4110 washer extractor.

Hôpital Expo in France and Expo Detergo International in Italy Other important shows to which GIRBAU will go this year are Hôpital Expo and Expo Detergo.

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THE NEW CONCEPT OF LAUNDRIES IN THE USA

Could you imagine having a coffee or surfing the Internet while you’re doing the washing in a coin-op laundry?

In the United States, where the coin-op laundries are very established, there’s a new concept of laundry based on a combination of traditional services with a wide offer of leisure services. An example of this new concept is the Laundry 101 (Madison, Wisconsin). Continental GIRBAU Inc. has installed a number of coin-op washer extractors that allow doing the washing in 40 minutes, and users don’t have to bring neither soap nor softener. Laundry 101 has become one of the fashionable places in Madison, haunted by students and young professionals that decide to spend some time with their friends having a sandwich, watching the TV or surfing in Internet while they do the washing.

PRESENTATION OF THE NEW WASHER EXTRACTOR HS-5008

GIRBAU S.A. presented on the 8th March 2002 in Vic (Spain) the new washer extractor HS-5008.

The convention assembled more than a hundred of dealers and distributors from Spain, Portugal and Italy interested in knowing the new HS-5008 and the tumble dryers STI.

The commercialisation of the new HS-5008 means that GIRBAU will have to approach new segments of the market like camping, rural guest house, youth hostels, hairdressers and all kind of establishments that will need a bigger output than the domestic washing machines.

Furthermore on the 2nd & 3rd of May second international convention took place to present the HS-5008 and the STI Dryers.

There were fifty dealers and distributors from Argelia, Austria, Belgium, Egypt, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Holland, Russia, Tanzania, United Arab Emirates, etc.

NEWS

GIRBAU COLLABORATES WITH THE FUNDACIÓN CATALANA PRISBA IN THE RAVAL NEIGHBOURHOOD OF BARCELONA

The Fundación Catalana Prisba was born in the Raval neighbourhood in Barcelona, in 1992. It started as a small laundry of the neighbourhood. Its target was to offer the laundry service to the neighbours of the old quarter of Barcelona because they didn’t have running water in their flats. The establishment was opened in a small site, with 2 people working. The objective was very clear: to clean the linen at “social” prices, because they knew the economic and social situation of the residents and to contribute actively in the reintegration at a social and working level, of those people who were socially excluded, who had difficulties to find a job, offering them working possibilities.

Nowadays, the laundry of the Fundación Catalana Prisba has 8 people working in it, most of them immigrant women older than 45, without education and neighbours of the neighbourhood.

In addition to attend the needs of the neighbourhood, the laundry collaborates with the social services of the City Council of Barcelona washing for example the clothes of the hostels for the homeless.

Projects like this one show the important possibilities of the neighbourhood laundries, an innovative concept in the Spanish market.

GIRBAU is proud to collaborate with the Fundación Catalana Prisba through its advice and washer extractors and they want to congratulate them for the work they do every day.

28 TONS OF PAPER AND CARDBOARD AND 102 KG OF BATTERIES HAVE BEEN RECYCLED IN 2001 IN GIRBAU, S.A.

GIRBAU S.A. being aware of the environment, has invested during 2001 more than 37,600 EUR to apply a correct management of waste products. In 2001 they collected 28 tones of paper and cardboard, 102 kg of batteries and 425 fluorescent tubes in the two factories in Vic. It is also important, the 60 kg of toners and the 420 plastic drums and cans collected.

In 2002, the target is to recycle a higher quantity. They want to save the documentation paper, used for the ISO-9001 and 14001, by sending 45% of the documentation by e-mail.

Another target is to change the actual fluorescents for triphosphorus fluorescent (recyclable and not considered as special waste) and replace the magnetic reactance for electronic ones that assure durability three times longer than the tube type.

GIRBAU PARTICIPATES IN THE PUBLICATION OF A BOOK BY THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF CATALONIA (UPC)

Carles Riba, Doctor of Industrial Engineering, professor of the Mechanical Engineering Department of the Polytechnic University of Catalonia and director of the Industrial equipment design Centre of the same university, has published the book Diseño de máquinas V Metodología (Machines Design V Methodology) in the collection Temas de Ingeniería Mecánica (Mechanical Engineering Subjects) of Ediciones UPC. The target of this book is to give conceptual and methodological aids to the professionals that have to design a product or a machine.

Riba, collaborator for 18 years of the Engineering Department of GIRBAU, S.A thanks in the book the collaboration of the Technical Director of GIRBAU, Ramon Sans, and the General manager, Antoni Girbau.

The book analyses the development of some GIRBAU products such as the Kits system and the batch washer.