

**GIRBAU**

GLOBAL LAUNDRY SOLUTIONS



NAIROBI HOSPITAL (KENYA), AN EXAMPLE OF A HIGH-OUTPUT HOSPITAL LAUNDRY

This laundry, equipped with a hospital batch washer and sanitary barrier washing machines, works 12 hours a day, 365 days a year

Hygiene makes all the difference in hospital and healthcare laundry. It is not enough to process large volumes, but a sanitary barrier must be created and the right equipment be in place to ensure maximum linen hygiene.

At Nairobi Hospital in Kenya they knew just who to choose for a new hospital laundry. The hospital has a relatively stable rate of occupation all year round, which means the laundry regularly works for 12 hours a day, 365 days a year. This Kenyan healthcare facility's needs therefore call for tough, long-lasting machinery plus, if necessary, a fast, highly effective technical service. In order to achieve maximum hygiene and total disinfection of linen, Nairobi Hospital purchased Girbau sanitary barrier machinery, so ensuring separation between the two areas in the laundry and preventing cross contamination between dirty and clean linen. The quality of Girbau machines was a key

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factor in the hospital's choice, as were good references from other Girbau hospital laundry customers in the Middle East and Europe. The laundry was designed with hygiene as the top priority, but also with a view to versatility as the

key to assuring performance. Thus, it was equipped with a TBS50 HYGIEN batch washer to be able to cope with up to 1,200 kg of linen per hour. The batch system provides intensive washing processes in order to eliminate high levels of dirt and disinfect pieces

of linen. It features an intermediate tank with a filter which removes fibrin and coloured particles from the water so that they are not transferred to subsequent loads, and features a batch washer disinfection programme when empty that injects steam into all the modules to keep them at 80° C. For small batches, two BW630 sanitary barrier washing machines were added. These washing machines ensure





that dirty linen is not mixed at any time with clean linen, as they have a front door and a back one and the option of a compartmented drum with a total capacity of 63 kg. Their G factor of 347 and spin speed of up to 760 rpm reduce residual humidity to a minimum so that the subsequent drying process is of maximum effectiveness in terms of time and energy consumption. Finally, the installation was completed with 63 and 122 kg HS Series washing machines to allow large amounts of linen to be washed quickly, efficiently and with intuitive controls. The Aquamixer system (automatically mixing hot and cold water) saves energy on heating water, while the Aquafall system (perforated blades inside the drum) ensures better rinsing to make sure no traces of chemicals are left in the linen.

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In the drying area ST-100 dryers were installed, with automatic loading via conveyor belt, and ST1300 manually loaded dryers suitable for suction loading. Finally, the ironing area is equipped with a DRF-LITE 3 feeder, a PC120 flatwork ironer, an FT-LITE towel folder and an FT-VEST multi-purpose folder. Feeding by the DRF-LITE makes it possible to insert large items in 1 lane automatically, or to opt for manual feeding



of small items using the PC120 flatwork ironer. The ergonomics of the work positions, with their adjustable height, make it easier to feed linen and improve the productivity of the operators in the process.

"We're very satisfied with the machinery. It's easy to use and has been very well-received by our staff," says Nairobi Hospital a year on from installation. They are also satisfied with the features and options available, *"which allow the programmes to be adapted to laundering linen of any kind."* Girbau machinery not only makes it possible to launder linen properly, but also allows efficient rotation of ward and operating theatre linen, preventing any stock shortages and also offering impeccable quality in clothing for doctors and nurses, so improving the hospital's professional image before patients and relatives.



The responsibility of any healthcare facility like Nairobi Hospital towards its patients means that technical service for all its machines, including those in the laundry, is of special importance: *"A laundry 100% equipped with Girbau machinery needs to have local technical service. The service is impeccable and we get an immediate response to our queries, as well as spare parts in the same city."* Girbau is represented in Nairobi by New World Stainless Steel, supported by the Girbau Middle East subsidiary in Dubai (UAE). Nairobi Hospital laundry's future plans include the purchase of a second ironing system to increase output and avoid bottlenecks in the ironing area.