

LAUNDRY LOGIC FOR THE PROFESSIONAL OPL



COLLECTING SOILED LINEN

Operators should always wear disposable gloves when collecting soiled linen from the point of use. Strip beds, towels from bathrooms and table linen from the restaurant and place in the SOILED LINEN cart for transportation directly to the laundry. Always keep CLEAN linen and SOILED linen separate. Good management of the movement of soiled and clean linen, and the laundry environment in which the linen is stored, will reduce the risk of cross contamination.



SORTING OF SOILED LINEN

Linen must be sorted prior to processing to enhance the efficiency of the cleaning process. Never manually sort foul linen; this must be washed in the red bag it arrives in. Other items should be sorted by colour, fabric type, degree of soiling and size and follow Care Label instructions. Collections must be sent to the laundry as soon as possible so that they can be returned into service in a pristine condition.



LOADING THE WASHER

Neither under load or overload the washing machine – load linen at c. 80% of the machine capacity and process at the appropriate washing temperature and chemical formula. Always check that pockets are empty of items prior to washing. Keep all linen off the floor to avoid extra soiling. Ensure items of similar colour, construction, and soil level are washed together. Over loading will cause excessive wash liquor retention and will result in poor results due to inefficient rinsing.



UNLOADING THE WASHER

When the wash cycle has completely finished unload clean linen into CLEAN LINEN cart and transfer to the tumble dryer. Do not interrupt wash cycles and only use a fast wash programme if absolutely necessary – a full wash cycle gives better results. As tumble drying is the most energy intensive/expensive part of the laundry process the fabric's moisture should be lowered as much as possible by the washer's final extract cycle, ideally run for nine minutes at full speed.

TUMBLE DRYING PROCESS

Load dryer with the appropriate load weight and set correct process drying time. Once the cycle has started, the dryer should not be stopped for any reason (e.g. to check if the load is dry) as this will extend drying times. Excessive drying will lead to linen damage, colour degradation and fragrance loss. Always use a cool down process on the dryers to minimise creasing and avoid combustion. Clean out all dryer lint filters at least once per day.



FINISHING PRACTICES

Iron garments whilst they are still slightly damp to get the best finish - do not over dry fabrics; ensure prompt transfer to the ironer which ensures a consistent level of moisture as items enter the ironer. Minimise drying times - removing moisture in the tumbler rather than the ironer is very expensive. Only wash what you have time to dry (do not leave wet linen overnight). Fold linen immediately after drying or ironing to minimise creasing.



STORAGE & DISTRIBUTION

Clean linen should be stored in a dedicated clean storage facility which is well ventilated; or placed in a mobile cart for redistribution to the point of use. The designated laundry area should have a dirty to clean through-system so that dirty work arrives through one door, quickly washed and dried before removal through a separate exit to a clean storage area. Always ensure a dirty to clean workflow, so that clean and dirty laundry are always kept separate.



CHEMICALS & DOSING

Electronically controlled dosing of liquid laundry detergents ensures the correct amounts of laundry chemicals are used in every wash cycle, which in turn provides the best possible wash results as cost effectively as possible. Wash programmes and chemical dose rates are set for each site based on local conditions, wash types and machinery, and are devised following a site survey and an audit of wash processes. Do not skip through a wash program as this will result in poor wash results.



- * Chemical containers must be stored in a safe manner and in a suitably locked storage area away from the general public.
- * Ensure colour coded laundry tubing tags are in place so that the right tubing is clearly marked for the right detergent drums.
 - * Always wear suitable disposable PPE, never mix chemicals together or re-fill containers from other vessels or drums and mop up all spillages immediately.
 - * For detailed information on professional laundry best practices visit us at www.thearpalgroupblog.com

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WHERE SERVICE MATTERS MOST

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