



Moneysworth and Aladco are two laundries that are benefitting from Milnor's expertise in designing and manufacturing the ideal tunnel system based on their unique needs

Surging ahead with PulseFlow Technology

Since 1979, Milnor CBW tunnel washers have been capable of processing a wide variety of goods. Their efficiency and the range of options that they provide make these machines ideal for laundries handling high volumes. The company has now installed dozens of its PulseFlow tunnels worldwide and this latest development continues to surpass all expectations. Milnor's distributor network and skilled engineers provide excellent care and expertise to ensure that the PulseFlow tunnel washer provides the perfect solution for the customer's unique needs.

Moneysworth Linen Services and Aladco Linen Services are two laundries that have greatly benefitted from PulseFlow Technology and both installations are producing savings and wash quality that have exceeded initial projections. Both companies relied on Milnor's expertise to design and manufacture the ideal system based on their special needs.

Moneysworth Linen Services

In the hospitality industry, profitability relies on the ability to turn around a guest-room or entire house in the few hours between check-out and check-in.

Patrick Keenan understood that an efficient laundry service was a vital component for his mother's luxury rental business, which has 400 properties with an average of five beds per unit. At first Keenan outsourced the linen but soon realised that he needed to own and operate a laundry to control quality. This led him to develop Moneysworth Linen Services, one of the most modern commercial laundries along the North Carolina coast. This laundry is capable of processing 3.5million lb per year, with fresh water use of only 0.3 – 0.45gallons/lb.

Patrick Keenan and his brother John set up a company

to purchase the equipment and plant and selected Elizabeth City as the site. C J McCauley, who had 10 years experience of linen management was appointed operations manager. Initially, the laundry was equipped with small washer-extractors and dryers, which could process 1,000lb (450kg) an hour.

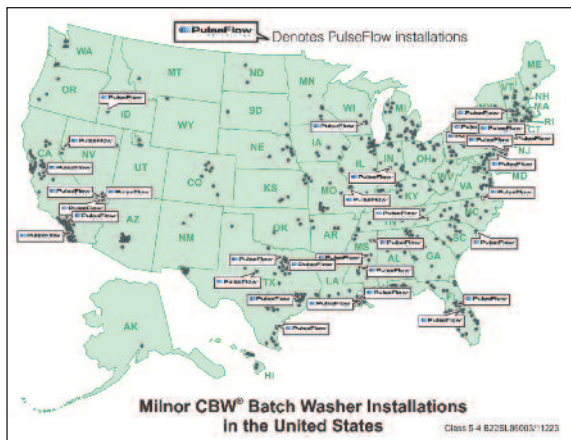
As business increased, the laundry needed more washing capacity. In 2009, after two busy tourist seasons, Keenan asked Prescott Spigner and TLC Equipment to provide a more environmentally-friendly solution – a CBW tunnel washer.

At the same time, Pellerin Milnor was introducing its PulseFlow technology, a revolutionary design for the proven 30-year-old CBW tunnel washer concept. The PulseFlow design still employed True Top Transfer washing but also involved enhanced water flow and re-use.

After months of independent testing and research, PulseFlow Technology not only met industry standards but exceeded them across the board. The Hohenstein Institute awarded Pellerin Milnor its Certificate of Innovation, confirming that a PulseFlow tunnel

MORE CAPACITY: Moneysworth Linen Services in North Carolina is equipped with Milnor's 10-module 76039 CBW tunnel (main picture). The laundry also has a pivoting COINC conveyor (right), which delivers cakes from the press to a double stack shuttle





CBW INSTALLATIONS: Milnor has installed CBW batch washers with PulseFlow throughout the USA (far left); and (left) the structure and space limitations of Aladco's building meant that installing a PulseFlow CBW demanded close collaboration

effectively washes linen with light to medium soiling in 0.3 – 0.45 gallons/lb of fresh water. Since Moneysworth's existing flatwork lines did not require additional boilers, the Keenans wanted a steamless tunnel washer, a very unusual request that became an exciting project for Milnor's engineers. McCauley commented "I will never be afraid of exploring technology with Jim Pellerin and his team because they stand behind their product and that says a lot."

With approximately 30 full-time employees, Moneysworth processes 160,000lb of hospitality linens per week – approximately 3.5 million lb/year. The laundry is now equipped with a 10-module 76039 CBW tunnel (150lb capacity), an MP1604 (50bar) single-stage press and four 64058 (200 – 320lb. capacity) pass-through dryers. The laundry also has a pivoting COINC conveyor, which delivers cakes from the press to a double-stack shuttle. Production capacity has increased to 6,000lb/hour.

The building and laundry layouts are designed for maximum efficiency. The E-Tech soil-sort platform has seven bag drops, with three or four sorters. These bag drops are programmed specifically for each property, with LCD displays. As the desired bag weight is achieved, the E-Tech rail system directs the full bag to a waiting zone and an empty bag replaces it.

Patrick Keenan says the steamless PulseFlow CBW outperforms current demands. In the future, he hopes to expand the business and install a barrier wall for servicing the healthcare sector. He added that Milnor's customer support and excellent track record made the choice of supplier easy.

Aladco Linen Services

Aladco Linen Services processes medium and heavily-soiled hospitality linens out of a late 19th century mill plant in Adams, Massachusetts. Aladco's customers rely on the laundry to clean all kinds of goods – bar towels, coloured table linen, sheets and grimy mop heads. Aladco relies on its Milnor 76039 eight-module CBW tunnel with PulseFlow Technology to effectively process 7.2 million lb annually.

Before industry veteran Dave Desmarais became Aladco's president in 2005, he had nearly three decades of experience with Milnor CBWs. Desmarais knew that a Milnor tunnel could achieve the production goals and utility savings. However, upgrading Aladco's laundry was not easy, chiefly because of the building's 19th century wooden floor structure and space restrictions. The PulseFlow tunnel installation needed close collaboration

between Aladco staff, Milnor engineers and Yankee Equipment Systems, Milnor's local distributor. The layout includes an overhead sling system, a four-compartment CONWA loading conveyor, angled load chute, compact PulseFlow tunnel and adjacent MP1604 single-stage press. The laundry also uses Milnor V-Series washer-extractors for smaller loads.

Switching from single-pocket washer-extractors to an eight-module tunnel was an adjustment for the staff and Desmarais' knowledge of tunnels proved essential for Aladco's success. He trained the staff to plan for his plant's mixed goods requirements.

The mix includes check-patterned table linen and white sheets, as well as coloured polyester napkins, which are sorted, scheduled, and processed with excellent results and efficiency. Desmarais said: "I was confident in the CBW but was pleasantly surprised with how clean the mops got with minimal fresh water."

Before the first load was processed, Aladco installed an independent water meter on the tunnel to verify Hohenstein's results. On average, the PulseFlow tunnel consumes only 0.4 gallons/lb (2.5 litre/kg) of fresh water.

Aladco was awarded a \$50,000 grant for reducing its gas consumption. It has now cut this by 1,000 therms per week and predicts yearly savings of 90,000 therms. The tunnel system cost analysis projections point to a complete payback in less than three years.

The company has also been able to reduce the working week for its 68 production staff to 35 hours. Staff also find loading and unloading the tunnel via the conveyor, much easier than this task was with the large washer-extractors.

Dave Desmarais advises any laundry owner or manager: "If you are looking at upgrading your washroom or considering a water re-use system, you owe it to yourself to look into PulseFlow." **LCNI**

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ACHIEVING TARGETS: Aladco president Dave Desmarais knew that a Milnor CBW PulseFlow tunnel could achieve his company's production goals and produce utility savings