The Roosevelt New Orleans, Waldorf=Astoria Collection: History Restored and Grandeur Maintained

Louisiana former Governor Huey P. Long was known for his compelling stump speeches and questionable political practices, but a lesserknown legacy is his contributions to the state's highways and bridges. Before he took office, Louisiana had only 331 miles of paved roads. Along with tax reform and a literacy initiative, Governor Long set out to have over 3,000 paved miles of highway for his constituents to conduct business, travel, and entice tourists. One of these new paved highways was Airline Highway, connecting Baton Rouge to New Orleans. It is on



this 80 mile highway that Pellerin Milnor Corporation's headquarters still is located today. Governor Long used The Roosevelt Hotel as his personal governor's mansion while in New Orleans—renting out the 12th floor suite for his staff and himself!



In June 2009, The Roosevelt New Orleans, Waldorf=Astoria Collection reopened its doors after a \$145 million renovation to restore the property to its glory days, when politicians and movie stars rubbed elbows in the famous Sazerac Bar. In keeping with its

company standards in excellence, the hotel

purchased Milnor equipment to service their various linen needs.

The 504-room hotel has two restaurants, one café, and a dessert bar all with unique linens and uniforms. Like all Waldorf=Astoria Collection properties, The Roosevelt New



Orleans' linens are 600 thread count cotton sheets, with logo-embossed coverlets, Euro shams, and standard shams. The laundry also processes the staff uniforms from the three restaurants, housekeeping and guest services using four NEW 42030 V6J (160 lb. capacity) washer-extractors, the laundry includes one 30022 V6J (60 lb. capacity) washer-extractor to handle smaller, more delicate items, like the



embroidered pillow shams. These washerextractors have RinSave® water saver feature, and the 42030 V6J washer-extractor has ExactXtract® extraction optimizer. With these energy saving options, the hotel's water consumption and dryer fuel is significantly lower than hospitality

installations without these unique Milnor features. As a result of the higher RPM in the extraction cycle and fewer intermediate rinse steps, the laundry can process more loads per shift for less money spent in utilities. Also installed are four M190 gas dryers with one M75 gas dryer.

The laundry staff is keenly aware of every item (including staff uniforms) that arrives in the laundry. With the help of Milnor machinery and stringent pre-sorting, the staff maintains accountability for each and every luxury piece of linen—double checking quality control of each load before it is transported to the flatwork side.



Currently, the laundry operates in one shift per day (5:00am-4:30pm) with 12 fulltime employees (only three had previous laundry experience). Due to the efficiencies and cost-effectiveness, the hotel has opted to process their food and beverage linens, so the hotel will expand to more employees. After three months in operation, hotel management is looking to expand their laundry facility with more flatwork machines and washers.

Keeping these goods organized and returned clean and in-time for the next shift is challenging, but necessary to the hotel's image of excellence. Every laundry staff member understands that each towel, sheet, and wash cloth must be

accounted for at the end of the day. The laundry staff has been trained to be efficient and discriminating with each load. The operators pull out one sheet at a time and lay it across the carts—this practice eliminates another sort process before going to the flatwork side. For more information on laundries like this one or on Milnor's energy saving options, please visit <u>www.milnor.com</u> or call 1-800-469-8780.

