

Low Line feeder proves a force to be reckoned with



When H J Weir developed the Vacfeed Low Line feeder it produced a piece of equipment with a versatility and quality of finish that has excited the laundry market

The Vacfeed Low Line is a single-lane multi-station automatic spreader feeder that can be used for both large and small flatwork. This latest development of the Vacfeed is noted for its ergonomic design, energy-saving variable-speed fans, a rapid clearance function that increases productivity and the WISE control, with a touchscreen display that has 32 programs to provide an unprecedented level of control. The feeder is easy to use and its name derives from the design of the clipping system and feeding stations, which have been placed at a comfortable and safe height for the operators. Another plus point is that the feeding stations can be raised to allow small or shaped pieces, which would be awkward to clamp, to be placed directly on the main feed conveyor. The Vacfeed incorporates Weir's WISE control and, as can be seen from the testimonials opposite, this has

proved of great interest to laundries. WISE stands for Weir Intelligent System Electronics and this control certainly lives up to its name while still proving easy to use. Its features include PLC, 32,000 colour high illumination liquid crystal touchscreen, 32 programs, multi-language display and a diagnostic function with event and fault log that can be accessed via the touchscreen.

The system gathers and records data and has different access levels for operators, supervisors and maintenance staff so that each can find the relevant information, while other data are kept secure.

The WISE control also features pacing lamps at each station. These indicate whether an operator is on or over target (green), between targets (yellow) or below target (red). As well as indicating individual performance, the system can monitor targets for the whole machine.

As a further aid to productivity, the feeder has a rapid clearance function that can increase productivity by as much as 20%.

H J Weir director Ross Weir is pleased with the success that this feeder is enjoying. He points out that the machine is designed to allow a high quality lay of pieces giving good definition on leading and trailing edges. It is also versatile, producing good quality on bed linen, duvet covers and upmarket table linen.

He adds that the feeder is compact and robust in construction while also occupying a minimal footprint. It is competitively priced and its low energy use produces considerable savings on installation and running costs. It can also be used with any type of pass-through ironer.

CLIPPED: The clipping stations have been designed at a height that is comfortable and safe for the operators



Easy-to-use control on a highly productive feeder

Richard Cope of Faversham Laundry in Kent purchased a Vacfeed Low Line earlier this year and reports that he is very impressed by the performance of this versatile feeding machine.

“Of particular interest was the WISE control, which my staff have found easy to use.” He adds that this control and the feeder’s rapid clearance function has meant that the laundry has been able to process larger volumes throughout the working day.

Richard also singles out the feeder’s variable-speed fans, which have ensured that the machine consumes less energy than other machines the laundry has used.

He concludes: “Good sales follow-up together with knowledgeable installation and commissioning by an H J Weir engineer are two key points that have contributed to my overall satisfaction with the Vacfeed Low Line.”

SATISFIED CUSTOMERS: Richard Cope and Emma Knox of Faversham Laundry in Kent. They say that staff have found the WISE controller easy to use and the installation has helped to increase productivity



A reliable machine that help keeps pace with targets



GOOD PRODUCT, GOOD SERVICE: Mark Wildish is pleased both with the machine’s performance and the service and support provided by H J Weir

Mark Wildish, linen services manager at MTW Linen Services, finds that the Vacfeed Low Line has proved a real asset and is a trouble-free, reliable machine.

The feeder has been in operation for around seven months and Mark finds that it has small details that make a big difference.

He praises the operator pace lights that show performance at each station and the variable-speed fans that mean the machine uses less energy.

The rapid clearance function is “another superb feature that we use constantly.” Mark says it has increased productivity on sheets by 20%.

“Overall, I am very happy with the product and service received from H J Weir and I would have no problem in recommending this product to any prospective purchaser.”

Operator friendly design that has increased throughput

Robert James, managing director of the Petersfield and Reliance Laundry, decided to purchase a new feeder to increase productivity and quality.

The installation of the Vacfeed Low Line transformed performance in both respects, giving the company the throughput and quality it wanted, in particular on table linen.

Robert says that the WISE control system has allowed an infinite number of variable settings by classification. He also reports that the operators have found the machine very user-friendly and comfortable to work at.

The rapid clearance function for sheets has also enabled the laundry to process higher volumes within the company’s standard day.

In all, he has found that the transition from his previous machine to the Vacfeed Low Line has gone smoothly and he is very pleased he made the decision to upgrade the equipment.



A WISE CHOICE: Robert James is pleased with his decision to upgrade to the Vacfeed Low Line