

Steam Tunnels in the Drycleaning Plant

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As cleaners have to do more wet cleaning we find it very beneficial to have a small steam tunnel to pre-condition the garments. In particular men's suits and sports coats and women's dresses (shoulder pads) for easier and faster finishing. They look great and it makes a big difference. Two of the manufacturers of steam tunnels, Leonard Automatics and Colmac, offer information on the benefits of the finishers.

Tunnel finishers are easy to use, and can reduce your pressing demands by allowing most garments to pass directly from the washer or drycleaning machine to the tunnel. This will greatly reduce your dependence upon expensive and unreliable manual pressing. Stainless steel constructed twist conveyor eliminates corrosion and ensures long life. They can also improve quality and produce a "supple hand" to finished goods that your customers will appreciate.

With production rates exceeding even the best pressers, they can dramatically increase your facilities overall throughput. Optional auto-loaders can minimize impact upon employees by allowing you to create a buffer of garments before the tunnel.

Some of the advantages are:

- Labor saving: Reduces or eliminates pressing for many of your dry-cleaned garments
- Quality finishing, step 1: Shoulder-to-shoulder orientation allows close-up and complete steaming of the garment for full penetration and relaxation of fabrics, which is the key step to the quality finishing of dry-cleaned garments
- Quality finishing, step 2: Thermostatically-controlled airflow gently shakes and heats the garments, enhancing wrinkle and lint removal
- Space saving: One tunnel does the work of multiple press stations, resulting in a net gain in valuable floor space
- Unattended operation: Autoloader allows the operator to place multiple garments on the powered storage rod, which automatically and precisely loads each garment on a conveyor hook for finishing. After finishing, the garments automatically unload to the exit storage rail. This automatic operation frees the operator for other duties
- Greatly reduced heat transfer to the workplace: Narrow entrance & exit openings, fully insulated, continuous internal air circulation, automatic steam on/off as needed, and an optional advanced exhaust system