

XI. Hungarian National Textile Cleaning Conference

TTE, the Hungarian Association of Textile Cleaning organized its annual national conference, this year dedicated to „Increasing Efficiency – supporting successful textile care”.

The main sponsor of the event was **Clovin SA** and **Penta-Clean Care Kft.**, further supporters included Alvára Cleaning Kft., Bardusch Bértexília Kft., CHT Switzerland AG, CWS-boco Hungary Kft., Referencia Mosodák Zrt., Thermopach Kft. and Zura Kft.

Exhibitors had a separate area to showcase their products and services: **CLOVIN–PentaClean Kft.**, Lapauw, Naturtex, and Alfadot Kft., ASIO Hungária Kft., Bepatek Kft., Christeysn Higiéniá Kft., CHT Switzerland AG – Bezema, Delta Clean Kft., Dozit Plus Kft., Dulay és Tsa. Bt., Judit Paplan Kft., Miele Kft., Mova Kft. – Girbau, Polizo Kft., Referencia Mosodák Zrt., Vebra 2000 Kft., Vend-Tex Kft.

Overall about 120 guests participated in the event, including Hungarian and regional experts from several CEE countries.

Professional presentations

Co-operation of PentaClean Care Kft. and the Polish Clovin SA in the Hungarian market

Hernek Ferenc, the Textile Hygiene Business Unit Lead of PentaClean Care Kft. emphasized the importance of the textile care sector in their portfolio, including reliable dosing equipments, water treatment solutions and other hygiene products, or workwear and PPE.

Clovin's solution for removing resitant stains

Representing Clovin, *Marcin Jonasz*, detailed the 4 groups of stains, that can / have to be removed during the washing process, using four different type of cleaning agent from Clovin: enzyme based, oxidative agents, degreaser and solvent for other type of stains (e.g ink, shoe cream, blood or rust).



Textiltisztító Egyesülés

Cleaning aspects of textile procurement

The Regional Leader of Naturtex Kft., Mrs *Klambauerné Kiss Csilla* summarized the different aspects of selecting textiles, to ensure usable and washable solutions for hotels, restaurants, health care institutes or even student hostels.

When selecting textiles, the user and the laundry should work together, even do test-washing cycles before procurement to ensure the textile colour and size retention.

Among the different quality factors, the raw material, the texture, weaving or looping, the confection process play an important role when selecting the textile, but she also listed those potential issues that result from the not-well defined washing instructions and missing labelling, or the sensitivity of the final product towards mechanical impacts of a washing process.

Visible external distortion of flat linen and towels, options for testing and its causes

Mr Kutasi Csaba Textile Forensics, expert of TMTE listed the typical problems resulting from the raw material and confection. These include possible reasons for warping of finished goods, texture and surface changes, stains or yellowing. Then he also detailed those factors that impact the textile during usage and washing processes, e.g. mechanical impacts (resulting from not-lined container or metal/aluminium furniture and equipment), or chemical impacts (thread damages due to mineral acid, stains of oils, cosmetics, etc. A group of specific stains and lesions originate from mud treatment, bath salts or other minerals used for therapeutics (so called SpA: Sanus per Aquam, „health from water”). In his presentation he also gave insight on the methods of examination, determining the origin and causes of possible defects and stains. These include those stains that are not visible before the washing process but are activated during it, options for laboratory tests and instrumental analysis.





Flatwork ironing success

The Commercial Director of Lapauw, Mr. *Petr Jirutka* introduced the audience to the four basic factors that influence the quality of ironing: time, temperature, pressure and extraction. The ironers of Lapauw ensure a balanced performance of these factors, resulting in high quality ironing.

However, the quality of ironing is further influenced by several other factors of the washing process, including e.g water hardness, or mineral content of the water (that can easily be deposited on the coating of the rolls). These can cause colouring or creasing of the textile during ironing. Iron or magnesium are specially dangerous, these can quickly damage coating of the rolls or discolour the textile.

Life-value table of textiles and correct pre-inspection policies

Dr. *Varró Tamás*, Managing Director of TOP Clean Kft., introduced the life-value table used by textile cleaning saloons and in consumer disputes. This table was prepared and recently revised by the German association „Deutsche Textilreinigungsverband (DTV)”, but is widely used in Hungary as well.

To determine the life-value of a textile, it is often required to use textile forensics expert as well, especially in cases where the disputed item is of high value.

To prove value of the damage is always the responsibility of the harmed party, preferably by presenting the purchase receipt (with purchase date and value). Life-value is influenced by the purchase price, actual age of the item, expected useful lifetime of the item and its overall condition. It is often the case, that after only a one-time usage, the value is reduced by 10%. When talking



about commercially used textiles (horeca textile, workwear, etc.) the valuation is based on the daily usage factors, number of washing cycles, and textile quality.

Training of professionals

TMTE is regularly organizing trainings according to the National Qualification Register (OKJ), Mrs. *Ecker Gabriella*, Secretary General of TMTE reported, that in 2017/2018, 10 persons successfully participated in the education, and the next training has already started. This training includes both theoretical and practical modules as well. Also, there is the opportunity for Master degree exams, in case enough applicants.

Trends of the European laundry sector

Mr *Peter Bauwens*, Textile care expert, compared the costs and effectivity of the sector between 1968 and 2018. In these 50 years, the major changes are based on the development of companies in size (small family businesses outgrown into multinational companies), building of chains (instead of individual companies), widespread automated industrial processes, and specialized laundries.

In the next 10 years it is expected that the capacity of the industry will grow further, the market share of rental textile keeps increasing, the production planning and control becomes more modern and automated, using sophisticated IT solutions and automated equipment. As a result, the proportions of the cost elements will be: labour 17,5% (compared to 35% in 2018), water and energy 15% (2018: 10%), detergents 2,5%, maintenance 10% (2018: 7,5%), depreciation 30% (2018:20%), textile procurement 20% (2018: 20%), other costs remain 5%.



The bigger markets will focus on quantities and smaller but more demanding markets will focus on quality and services.

General presentations

Risks in Europe, worldwide and in Hungary

Dr. Bod Péter Ákos, Professor of the Corvinus University analysed the world-wide economical and political status, including the commercial war started by the USA, role of China, or EU. Relevant for our sector are the duties of metal products, that increas the manufacturing price of laundry equipment.

In total, the GDP around the world shows an average 3-4% increase, but there is a large difference between countries. In Hungary the growth is slowing down, and its vulnerability is largely based on the ca 75% public debt. Although Europe is successful but vulnerable, migration of workforce, lack of labour, dissatisfaction or populist politics are widespread issues.

Changes in tax law

CEO of FairConto Zrt. *Mr Ruszin Zsolt* focused on the changes in cafeteria, in 2019. The elements of the cafeteria system is used worldwide, with good examples, but from 2019, in Hungary, a much narrower choice of cafeteria elements will be available.

GDPR: EU data protection rules

Dr. Bujtor Gyula labour law expert gave a short presentation on the not-so new GDRP rules in Europe, effective from 25. May, 2018. He detailed its terminology, liabilities of the companies and gave guidelines on how to prepare a company for GDPR compliance.

Funded developments

Mr. Tóth Ádám Ferenc, Managing Director of the European Conformity Check Business Development consulting institute detailed the tender opportunities between 2014-2020.

He focused on projects that help SMEs to innovate, implement automation, buy new machinery or other equipments.

After 2020 it is to expect, that the availability of credit-combined support will be growing.

What is cheaper – penalties or PPE?

Mr Márkus László work safety engineer answered the question in title.

In the laundry sector, safety incidents can originate from not wearing the required PPE (working with chemicals eg.).

Even for smaller companies it is recommended to engage a work safety expert, provide appropriate PPE, regularly check their usage and condition and apply a relevant and detailed safety management system.

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Mrs. Király Valéria, Director of TTE closed the conference by thanking participants, sponsors, supporters, presenters and exhibitors for their participation.

In 2019. the next national Textile Cleaning conference will be held 5-7. November.

Special thanks goes to the associations and participants from the CEE region: representatives of the Polish, Czech, Slovak association and the Serbian market.

