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# MANAGEMENT

## Improving sustainability in the laundry room

Advancements in washer and dryer controls are helping energy management in the laundry room, said Bill Brooks, national sales manager at commercial laundry equipment manufacturer UniMac.

"Knowing how much water, electricity and time you're using on these cycles and being able to get your head around that is important," Brooks said. While a 10-minute change in a cycle or a water-level setting are not things a GM would usually be aware of, being able to track them allows GMs to make changes to control energy costs.

"With some of the early sustainability programs, there was such a high cost to trying to be good stewards of energy that it never produced a return," said Brooks. "But now as long as we can manufacture a product where there's an ROI, it's going to continue to grow, and the beauty of it is, with controls, you can always prove it."

Other recent developments in sustainable laundry equipment include moisture sensing on a tumbler dryer, which allows a dryer to stop when it senses a certain moisture level to avoid wasting energy on overdrying, Brooks said.

Another older but popular solution is hi-G washing machines. By increasing the G-force at which the machines spin from 100Gs to 400Gs, hoteliers can cut the amount of water in a wet load of laundry from 100 percent of the load's dry weight to 60 percent, Brooks said. That means the dryer has to burn less energy to dry the load. **HM**

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### How important is sustainability to your hotel's average guest?

Very important	24.0%
Important	26.6%
Neutral	35.2%
Somewhat unimportant	11.1%
Not at all important	3.1%

Source: Hotel Management GM Survey 2013

### In the last year have you added any new sustainability initiatives at your property?

<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>
50.2%	49.8%

Source: Hotel Management GM Survey 2013