



NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

Continental announces membership in the U.S. Green Building Council

Oshkosh, Wis - Continental Girbau's commitment to developing highly efficient laundry equipment led to the company's recent alignment with the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), a non-profit organization that developed the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System. Continental is now a member of USGBC.

LEED is a rating system that is a nationally accepted benchmark for measuring the sustainability of "green" buildings. According to USGBC, there are several state governments that have embraced LEED in the development of new construction, including prisons, fire departments, schools, colleges and police departments, to ensure these new facilities use less energy and have less impact on the environment over time. Similarly, a growing number of privately owned buildings and businesses are following LEED recommendations to ensure efficiency now and into the future.

LEED recognizes performance in five areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy-efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

"Continental is known as a manufacturer of energy-efficient products that meet ISO 14001 standards, so our products fit the LEED profile perfectly," said Mike Floyd, president of Continental. According to Floyd, Continental equipment, with its high-efficiency and design, decreases a facility's water, gas and electricity usage. "Continental equipment can significantly reduce utilities, chemical usage and linen wear and better a laundry's indoor working environment through quiet machine operation," he said.

According to the USGBC Web site, following LEED guidelines can provide numerous benefits to building owners and communities in general. Some benefits of a LEED certification include lower operating costs and increased asset value, healthier and safer environments for occupants, reduction of harmful greenhouse gas emissions and qualification for tax rebates, zoning allowances and other incentives.

“With the countless benefits of following LEED recommendations, the people who seek to develop sustainable buildings, such as architects, facility managers, engineers, construction managers and government officials, could profit substantially by exploring Continental’s energy-efficient washer-extractors, drying tumblers and flatwork ironers,” said Floyd.

Continental Girbau, Inc. is the largest of nine subsidiaries of Girbau S.A., based in Vic, Spain. Girbau S.A. laundry products – marketed throughout 80 countries worldwide – meet rigorous environmental and safety standards established by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). Girbau S.A. holds both ISO9001 and ISO14001 certifications. Ever focused on laundry efficiency, Continental Girbau is a member of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that developed the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System. Visit Continental at www.continentalgirbau.com, or call 800-256-1073.