

ATHLETIC LAUNDRIES – REAL LIFE EXAMPLES NHL'S ANAHEIM DUCKS UPGRADE PRACTICE ARENA AND HONDA CENTER INSTALL DISINFECTING SPORTS LAUNDRY SYSTEM

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The Anaheim Ducks recently installed a Sports Laundry System[®] at the team's practice facility — Great Park Ice & Fivepoint Arena, in Irvine, Calif. They liked it so much, plans are underway to outfit the team's home game venue — the Honda Center. Not only does the Sports Laundry System dramatically improve laundry production and reduce drying time and natural gas consumption, it effectively disinfects the team's uniforms, practice gear, loops and towels, according to Doug "Sluggo" Shearer, retired head equipment manager.

That's a good thing, according to Shearer, because infections including staph and antibiotic-resistant MRSA are a problem in athletic locker rooms and training facilities across the country. To ensure infection doesn't spread, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that contaminated laundry be properly cleaned. The Ducks' Sports Laundry System eliminates 99.9 percent of infectious bacteria and viruses in the wash — helping keep athletes and coaches healthy.

How the Sports Laundry System Works

Sized to support multi-team tournaments, the Ducks' Sports Laundry System features two 80-pound capacity soft-mount washers, each with ozone injection, and a pair of 75/85-pound capacity, high-performance drying tumblers. Jason McAninch, of Continental Girbau West (CG West), a laundry equipment distributor in Santa Fe Springs, Calif., worked closely with Shearer on the project.

Disinfection with Ozone & Highly Programmable

"The Sports Laundry System is unlike most laundry solutions on the market because it harnesses ozone, a natural gas, to kill bacteria and viruses," said McAninch. "It's highly programmable to ensure every variable of the wash cycle is controlled and automated to combine the right water temperature and levels with the proper mix of cleaning chemicals, ozone, extract speeds and rotation action."

Another feature, automatic chemical injection, eliminates human error and the possibility of damage to athletic items, he said. "So, no matter who does the laundry, uniforms, warm-ups, loops and towels are perfectly and consistently cleaned." Operators simply select a program number, load the machine and press start.

"Once we had the system installed and saw how it operated, it became a no-brainer to bring it onboard at our newly renovated Honda Center," said Shearer. "The soft-mount washers are unbelievable because laundry comes out practically dry. This is because they reach high-extract speeds to remove more moisture from every load."

Improved Laundry Productivity

Because the soft-mount washers produce extract speeds reaching 400 G-force considerably higher than most traditional washers — more water is removed from every load, which cuts resulting dry time by up to 50 percent and catapults productivity, according to McAninch. In doing so, contaminated towels and athletic gear don't pile up and pose an infection risk. Rather, laundry is quickly cleaned and disinfected.

"We hosted a 6-team tournament at Fivepoint Arena in September, with three games per day plus practices, and our Sports Laundry System operated non-stop and never got behind," said Schearer.

And because the dryers run less often, due to lower dry times, the Ducks expect to also save on natural gas and uniform replacement costs. "Anytime you reduce dryer time, you also reduce uniform loss," said McAninch. "This laundry system is extremely gentle, yet highly productive."

Peace of Mind

Now the Ducks' laundered uniforms, practice gear and loops smell fresh and clean. "For me it smells like fresh rain," said Shearer. Furthermore, it's disinfected to thwart the spread of infection.

Discover more about Sports Laundry Systems at sportslaundry.com or call 800-256-1073. Learn more about the Ducks at nhl.com/ducks.

