Industry Information 33

Dryers

T5-lb. Capacity Capacity Highest priced unit: \$5,670 \$8,701 Average priced unit: \$4,462 \$9,843 Lowest priced unit: \$3,570 \$8,937

Pricing Trends

2010-2011: +5% 2011-2012: +5% 2012-2013: +5%

Typical delivery time: Immediately if in stock; 3-6 weeks for new machines.

Typical delivery charges: Varies dramatically depending on distance.

Average life span of product: 10 to 20 years

Percent vendor installed: Varies

Standard warranty: 3 years

Extended warranty: Depends on dealer

Average maintenance cost per year:

Under \$100 or up to \$300

(Figures cited are averages of all respondents' answers. Actual pricing will vary due to volume, bundling and other factors of a purchase.)

Source: American Dryer, Continental Girbau, Pellerin Milnor, Maytag, Laundrylux



FROM THE FRONT LINES:

"Our dryers have a sprinkler system built in, so that's a nice feature. You need to consider fire-safety issues, and it's helpful to have control over the temperature. For instance, linens need to be dried at a higher temperature than clothing, while microfiber mop heads need lower temperatures."

Kim Hamilton, Housekeeping and Laundry Supervisor, Heartland Healthcare Center, Henry, IL

Buyer Notes

- Many operators recommend having dryers serviced on a quarterly basis to ensure safety. As dryers become more sophisticated, it pays to have professionals check the gauges and dials.
- Operators are seeing the savings from energy-efficient dryers.
- In terms of practicality, operators need to measure doorways and entrances before the equipment is delivered to ensure that it fits into the building, a manufacturer advised.

For a list of vendors go to the: EQUIPMENT section, pages 82-83