



# ONE TOPIC SEMINAR SUMMARY

Managing Overhead Hanger Systems





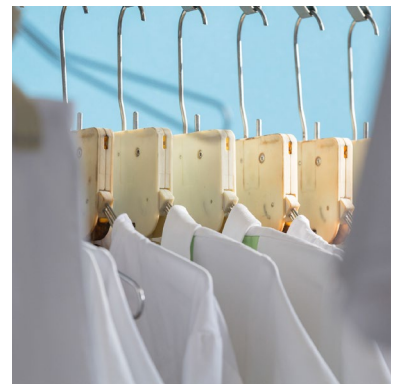
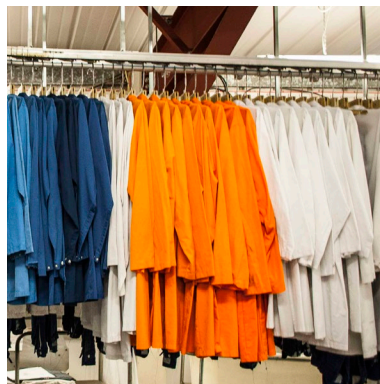
# One Topic Seminar Summary

## Managing Overhead Hangar Systems

**The journey of textiles products in an industrial laundry may seem basic and uncomplicated but every individual laundry site has its own challenges because of the unique designs, layouts and the type of textile articles serviced at that site.**

Overhead hanger systems are widely used when it comes to caring for garments at scale. These automated or partly automated systems makes it immensely efficient to manage stock, dry, quality control and pack the garments. As with all moving parts in a factory, the maintenance and design tweaks are essential to these hanger systems to realise their full potential.

Textile Services Association's One Topic Webinars featured overhead hanger system on 27th May 2021 when several of our PPE workwear rental members along with their suppliers shared some of the best practices that have helped them over the years. Our thanks to Elis and Kannegiesser for actively participating and driving the conversation.



Following are the key takeaways from the webinar:

### A well-functioning overhead hanger system can have positive implications on:

- Health and Safety considerations
- Production efficiency
- Customer service
- Cost
- Life of hangers, garments and rail systems

### Identifying and narrowing down the concern areas:

- Observe and record repeated occurrences and the number of hangers or garments falling off the rails.
- There may be unusual increases in numbers which will need investigating, possibly, throughout the system to find the cause.
- Implementing a numbered hanger system improves traceability.
- Encourage a culture of reporting – operators to make note of individual hangers falling.
- Quarantine any hangers that do fall off to allow for inspection.
- Record the type of garment and fabric weight etc.



### Design and Maintenance

- Replace worn parts with original quality or as instructed by the manufacturer.
- Specify the best calibration methods/ tolerances for the hanger.
- Maintenance regimes and record keeping.
- Cleaning practices and regular inspections of gates, tubing, slick rails, guide rails.
- Consider areas where there may be a need for additional design tweaks and work with the supplier to consider readily available solutions.
  - Placing of additional rods, without interfering with basic functionalities to reduce motion of the hangers that maybe causing repeated hanger falls.
  - Introducing 'stay bar' just before the final descent to 'user point'. This will stop the swing effect and reduces the risk of the hangers falling off.
  - Additional guide rod from the loading rail to the auto-loader entry point and this prevents sideways movement.
  - Adjust the system to prevent large numbers of hangers at each gate. Reduce to 2-3 instead of 8-10. This will have no impact on production; but will prevent clogging on hangers at gate points.

### Training

- Discuss correct loading of product - Trained competent operators.
- Correct hangers for the application - Design and evaluation, operator competency.
- Clear and concise instructions for the staff who are using the equipment together with refresher training and involving them in implementing a solution. They may have practical suggestions as to why hangers malfunction. For instance, they may be able to help identify certain garments, sizes or fabrics which needs a corrective action to improve efficiency and quality.