



(Photo: TG Hylift)

## Cleaning of a hotel in Tallinn

# Semi-automatic cleaning system convinces from start to finish

The Estonian capital Tallinn stands between history and modern age. City walls, cathedrals and rustic lanes give the city a medieval flair. At the same time, Tallinn is one of the most modern cities in Europe. The initially Soviet-influenced cityscape has changed a lot since independence and joining the European Union. Today, Tallinn is a popular tourist destination with a variety of historic architecture as well as modern buildings with lots of glass and futuristic shapes.

The modern cityscape blends perfectly with a 13-storey hotel and entertainment complex, operated by Hilton Worldwide. Estonian architect Meelis Press designed the building. It was opened in 2016 and consists of a 4-storey low section topped by a 9-storey high building section. The lower part accommodates a hotel lobby, casino, conference center, SPA and restaurant. The higher section features 202 hotel rooms. Thanks to floor to ceiling windows all rooms provide its guests breathtaking views. The façade consists of extra-large triple glazing of up to 3 x 4 meter – soundproofed with sun protection coating. Cleaning of the glass façade and its external appearance are of great importance for the hotel operator. External service providers are contracted regularly for cleaning of the glass façade. To ensure that the sun protection coating is not damaged, the service providers are faced with the challenge of cleaning the coated glass panels thoroughly but gently at the same time. The hotel operator was not satisfied with the manual cleaning results, as the façade was not completely clean. Stubborn dirt could not be removed manually, which gave the façade an oily and greasy look when exposed to sunlight.

To try something new, the hotel operator got in contact with company Viidase OÜ. Viidase is active in the cleaning business since 2014 and is specialized in façade cleaning, especially glass and window cleaning.

Viidase relies on new, innovative cleaning technologies and expanded its cleaning equipment in 2018 with the purchase of

the semi-automatic cleaning system Hycleaner red Evo II from the German company TG Hylift GmbH.

Since the hotel and entertainment complex already has a rail and gondola system for façade cleaning and maintenance, it made sense to use Hycleaner red Evo II for the next cleaning run.

Once the Hycleaner is mounted under the gondola system by means of a carrier frame and the water supply is connected, the system is ready for use and cleaning can be started. Cleaning is done from top to bottom in order to prevent dirt water to run over the cleaned surfaces. As soon as the operator opens the water supply via a ball valve, the brush starts to turn. The brush is water-powered and brush speed is depending on the water quantity – up to 400 revolutions per minute are possible. A water pressure of 120-160 bar is required. The 1.60 meter wide cleaning brush is provided with a flat splashguard brush at the bottom of the spray hood, which prevents swirling of the water flowing down and the renewed soiling of the already cleaned surfaces. For heavily soiled surfaces it is also possible to spray water onto the façade while moving the Hycleaner to the building top, in order to pre-soak stubborn dirt.

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