

Live Bird Stunning Systems Comparison

Feature / Factor	LAPS (Low Atmospheric Pressure Stunning)	Electrical Stunning	Gas Stunning (CO ₂ or Multi-Phase)
Animal Welfare Compliance	✓ High – non-aversive; minimal stress	⚠ Variable – depends on shackle handling	✓ Compliant, but ethical acceptability is often debated
Pre-stun Shackling Required	✗ No	✓ Yes – birds must be shackled live	✗ No
Staff Safety Risk	✓ Low – minimal contact with live birds	⚠ Higher – manual shackling is hazardous	✓ Low – automated drawer handling possible
Consistency of Stunning	✓ Very high – pressure-controlled cycles	⚠ Variable – depends on current, contact etc	✓ Good – but affected by gas quality and time
Throughput Capacity	✓ Scalable – modular chamber options	✓ High – depending on setup	✓ High – with multiple chambers
DOA (Dead on Arrival) Rates	✓ Reduced due to calm handling	⚠ Can be elevated due to pre-stun handling	✓ Low – if transport conditions are stable
Regulatory Acceptance	✓ Approved by EFSA, OIE, USDA, EU	✓ Approved globally	✓ Widely accepted but under scrutiny in EU

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Ease of Cleaning & Hygiene	✓ Designed for washdown & biosecurity	⚠ Shackling area can be messy	⚠ Complex – gas rooms need tight sealing
Maintenance Requirements	✓ Low – minimal contact with live birds	⚠ Medium – electrodes and conveyors wear	⚠ High – gas sensors, seals, safety checks
Running Costs	✓ Low/Medium – vacuum pump energy use	✓ Low – mainly electrical	⚠ High – CO ₂ costs + monitoring systems
Automation & Data Logging	✓ Full cycle traceability & fault logging	⚠ Often manual or basic monitoring only	✓ Often includes control systems & reports
Bird Stress During Stunning	✓ Minimal – gradual decompression	⚠ High – stress during shackling	⚠ May be aversive – gas irritation effects

Wrightfield LAPS® – Live Bird Stunning Systems Comparison - LAPS® Licensed by TechnoCatch LLC

☎ +44 (0) 1379 872800

✉ sales@wrightfield.co.uk

🏢 Progress Way, Mid Suffolk Business Park, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7HU, UK