

## Generators, Light Towers, Compressors, and Heaters

Used Compressors Thousand Oaks - Air compressors are valuable equipment that transfers power into potential energy which is stored in pressurized air. These machines rely on gasoline, diesel or electric motors to force air into a special storage tank, subsequently increasing the pressure. Eventually, the tank reaches its limit and the air compressor turns off, holding the air in the tank until it can be used. Compressed air is utilized in a variety of industries. The tank depressurizes as the kinetic energy of the air is used. After the lower limit has been attained, the air compressor roars back to life to begin the process of pressurization.

**Positive Displacement Air Compressors** There are a variety of air compression methods. They are divided into roto-dynamic or positive-displacement categories. In the positive-displacement method, air compressors force the air into a space with decreased volume and this compresses the air. A port or valve opens one maximum air pressure is achieved. Next, the air is discharged from the compression chamber into the outlet system. Popular types of positive-displacement compressors include Piston-Type, Rotary Screw Compressors and Vane Compressors.

**Dynamic Displacement Air Compressors** Axial compressors and centrifugal air compressors fall under the dynamic displacement air compressors. A rotating component discharges its' kinetic energy and it eventually converts into pressure energy. There is a spinning impeller to generate centrifugal force. This mechanism accelerates and decelerates the contained air to produce pressurization. Air compressors generate heat and require a method for heat disposal; usually with some type of air cooling or water. Atmospheric changes are also taken into consideration during compressor cooling. Inlet temperature, the area of application, the power available from the compressor and the ambient temperature are all factors the equipment must take into consideration.

**Air Compressor Applications** Numerous industries rely on air compressors. Supplying clean air with moderate pressure to a submerged diver is one use. Providing clean air with high-pressurization to fill gas cylinders to supply pneumatic HVAC controls and powering items such as jackhammers or filling vehicle tires are other popular uses. Moderate pressurized air is used in large capacities for a variety of industrial jobs.

**Types of Air Compressors** Most air compressors are the reciprocating piston style, the rotary vane model or the rotary screw kind. These air compressors are chosen for smaller and more portable jobs.

**Air Compressor Pumps** Oil-injected and oil-less are two specific types of air-compressor pumps. The oil-free system is more expensive compared to oil-lubed systems and they last less time. Overall, the oil-less system is considered to deliver higher quality.

**Power Sources** Air compressors can be utilized with many different power sources. Gas, electric and diesel-powered air compressors are among the most popular types. There are other models that have been created to rely on power-take-off, hydraulic ports or vehicle engines that are commonly used for mobile systems. Diesel and gas-powered models are often chosen for remote locations that offer limited access to electricity. These models are quite loud and require proper ventilation for their exhaust. Electric-powered air compressors are common in workshops, garages, production facilities and warehouses where electricity is abundant.

**Rotary-Screw Compressor** The rotary-screw compressor is one of the most popular kinds on the market. This model of gas compressor relies on a positive-displacement mechanism of the rotary type. These compressors are often used in industrial applications in place of piston compressors. They are popular for jobs that depend on high-pressure air. High-power air tools and impact wrenches are popular. Gas compression of a rotary-screw model features a sweeping, continuous motion, allowing minimal pulsation which is common in piston model compressors and may cause a less desirable flow surge. Rotors are used by the rotary-screw compressors to make gas compression possible. There are timing gears affixed on the dry-running rotary-screw compressors. These components are important to ensure the female and male rotors operate perfectly aligned. In oil-flooded rotary-screw compressors, the space between the rotors is lubricated. This serves as a hydraulic seal while simultaneously transferring mechanical energy between the rotors. Entering at the suction portion, gas travels through the threads while the screws rotate; forcing the

gas to pass through the compressor and exit through the screws ends. Overall success is effective when particular clearances are achieved regarding the sealing chamber of the compression cavities, the rotors and the helical rotors. Rotation at high speeds minimizes the ratio of a leaky flow rate versus an effective flow rate. Many applications including food processing plants, automated manufacturing facilities and other industrial job sites rely on rotary-screw compressors. Besides fixed units, there are mobile versions in tow-behind trailers that are powered with small diesel engines. Commonly called “construction compressors,” these portable compression units are useful for road construction, pneumatic pumps, riveting tools, industrial paint systems and sandblasting jobs.

**Scroll Compressor** This type of popular air compressor specializes in compressing refrigerant or air. It is popular with supercharging vehicles, in vacuum pumps and commonly used in air-conditioning. These compressors are used in a variety of places to replace reciprocating and traditional wobble-plate compressors. They are used in residential heat pumps, automotive air-conditioning units and other air-conditioning systems. This machine has dual inter-leaving scrolls that complete the pumping, compressing and pressurizing fluids such as liquids and gases. Usually, one of the scrolls is fixed, while the second scroll is capable of orbiting with zero rotation. This dynamic action traps and compresses or pumps fluid between both scrolls. The compression movement occurs when the scrolls co-rotate with their rotation centers offset to create a motion akin to orbiting. The Archimedean spiral is found in flexible tubing variations. It functions similarly to a tube of toothpaste and resembles a peristaltic pump. Casings contain a lubricant to prevent exterior abrasion of the pump. The lubricant diverts heat. Since there are no moving parts coming into contact with the fluid, this pump is an affordable option. Having no seals, glands or valves keeps this equipment easy to operate and quite inexpensive in maintenance. Compared to additional pump items, this tube or hose piece is fairly low cost.