

Generators, Light Towers, Compressors, and Heaters

Used Compressors Elk Grove - Air compressors are popular equipment that stores pressurized air by transferring power into potential energy. 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. Once the kinetic energy in the air tank is used up, the tank undergoes depressurization. Once the lower limit is reached, the air compressor turns on again to start the pressurization process again.

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 Centrifugal air compressors, along with axial compressors fall under the dynamic displacement air compressor category. 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. Heat is generated by air compressors and these machines need a heat disposal method, generally with some form of air or water cooling component. Changes in the atmosphere play a role in compressor cooling. Certain equipment factors need to be considered including the available compressor power, inlet temperature, ambient temperature and the location of the application.

Air Compressor Applications Air compressors are used in many different industries. 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. There are many industrial applications that rely on moderate air pressure.

Types of Air Compressors The majority of air compressors are either the rotary screw type, the rotary vane model or the reciprocating piston type. These air compressor models are utilized for portable and smaller applications.

Air Compressor Pumps Oil-injected and oil-less are two specific types of air-compressor pumps. The oil-free system relies on more technical components; however, it lasts for less time in comparison to oil-lubed pumps and is more expensive. The system that functions without oil has been recognized with delivering better quality.

Power Sources There are a variety of power sources that can be used alongside air compressors. Electric, gas and diesel-powered models are the most popular; although, other models have been engineered to use hydraulic ports, power-take-off or vehicle engines that are often utilized in mobile applications. 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 One of the most sought after compressors is the rotary-screw compressor. A rotary-type, positive-displacement mechanism is what this type of gas compressor relies on. 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 compressor offers a sweeping motion. This creates less pulsation compared to piston model compressors which can result in a less productive flow. In the rotary-screw model, compressors rely on rotors to compress the gas. 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. There are oil-flooded rotary-screw compressors that rely on lubricating oils to fill the gaps between the rotors. A hydraulic seal is created which transforms the mechanical energy in between the rotors at the same time. Beginning at the suction location,

as the screws rotate, gas traverses through the threads, causing the gas to pass through the compressor and leave via the screws ends. Effectiveness and success are obtained when certain clearances are achieved with the sealing chamber of the helical rotors, the rotors and the compression cavities. Rotation at high speeds minimizes the ratio of a leaky flow rate versus an effective flow rate. Food processing plants, industrial applications requiring constant air and automated manufacturing facilities use rotary-screw compressors. Mobile models that rely on tow-behind trailers are another option compared to fixed models. They use compact diesel engines for power. Often referred to as “construction compressors,” portable compression systems are necessary for riveting tools, road construction crews, sandblasting applications, pneumatic pumps and numerous other industrial paint systems.

Scroll Compressor This type of popular air compressor specializes in compressing refrigerant or air. It is common in vacuum pumps, to supercharge vehicles and in air conditioning equipment. 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 apparatus features dual interleaving scrolls that are responsible for pumping, compressing and pressurizing fluids including gases and liquids. 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 happens when the scrolls synchronously rotate with their rotation centers misaligned to create an orbiting motion. Acting like a peristaltic pump, the Archimedean spiral is contained within flexible tubing variations’ similar to a tube of toothpaste. Casings contain a lubricant to prevent exterior abrasion of the pump. The lubricant also dispels heat. The peristaltic pump is a great solution since there are no moving items contacting the fluid. 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.