

## Generators, Light Towers, Compressors, and Heaters

Used Compressors Vallejo - Air compressors are valuable equipment that transfers power into potential energy which is stored in pressurized air. Air compressors use diesel, gasoline or electric motors, forcing air into a storage tank to pressurize it. Eventually, the tank reaches its limit and the air compressor turns off, holding the air in the tank until it can be used. There are many applications that require compressed air. 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. There are two categories: roto-dynamic or positive-displacement. With positive-displacement models, compressors force air into a chamber that has decreased volume in order to compress the air. After maximum pressure is attained, a valve or port opens and the air is discharged into the outlet system from the compression chamber. Vane Compressors, Rotary Screw Compressors, and Piston-Type are popular kinds of positive-displacement compressors.

**Dynamic Displacement Air Compressors** Centrifugal air compressors, along with axial compressors fall under the dynamic displacement air compressor category. These units rely on a rotating component to discharge the kinetic energy and transform it into pressure energy. A spinning impeller generates centrifugal force, accelerating and decelerating contained air, creating 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. Compressor cooling also relies on atmospheric changes. 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. Copious amounts of moderate pressure air are generated for numerous industrial applications.

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

**Air Compressor Pumps** Two of the main kinds of air-compressor pumps include oil-injected and oil-less kinds. The oil-free model depends on technical items; however, it costs more and lasts less than oil-lubed models. Overall, the oil-less system is considered to deliver higher quality.

**Power Sources** Air compressors can be utilized with many different power sources. The most popular models are diesel-powered, gas and electric air compressors. Additional models are available on the market that have been built to use hydraulic ports or engines that are commonly utilized by mobile units and rely on power-take-off. 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 popular air compressors available is the rotary-screw model. A rotary-type, positive-displacement mechanism is what this type of gas compressor relies on. These models are often used to replace piston compressors in vast industrial applications where large volumes of high-pressure air are required. Impact wrenches and high-power air tools are common. 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. 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 responsible to make sure the female and male rotors operate in perfect alignment. There are oil-flooded rotary-screw compressors that rely on lubricating oils to fill the gaps between the rotors. This design creates a hydraulic seal and transfers mechanical energy in between the rotors simultaneously. 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. Success and overall effectiveness rely on specific clearances being achieved between the sealing chamber of the compression cavities, the rotors and the helical rotors. High speeds and rotation are utilized to achieve harmony and minimize the ratio of leaky flow rate vs. effective flow rate. Many applications including food processing plants, automated manufacturing facilities and other industrial job sites rely on rotary-screw compressors. Other than fixed models, there are mobile units in tow behind trailers that run on diesel engines. Also known as “construction compressors,” portable compression systems are popular for sandblasting, industrial paint systems, construction crews, pneumatic pumps, riveting tools and more.

**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. A variety of air conditioning systems, residential heat pumps and a variety of automotive air conditioner utilize a scroll compressor in place of wobble-plate, reciprocating and traditional rotary compressors. 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 action traps and pumps or compresses fluid between the two scrolls. Compression motion may be achieved by co-rotating the scrolls synchronously with their centers of rotation offset to create a similar motion to orbiting. Flexible tubing variations contain the Archimedean spiral that operates similar to a tube of toothpaste and acts like a peristaltic pump. There is a lubricant on the casings to stop exterior pump abrasion. The lubricant additionally helps to dispel heat. With zero moving items coming into contact with the fluid, the peristaltic pump is an inexpensive solution. Having no seals, glands or valves keeps this equipment easy to operate and quite inexpensive in maintenance. In comparison to other pump units, the hose or tube feature is very inexpensive.