

## Generators, Light Towers, Compressors, and Heaters

Used Compressors Daly City - Air compressors are popular equipment that stores pressurized air by transferring power into potential energy. Air compressors use diesel, gasoline or electric motors, forcing air into a storage tank to pressurize it. After the tank reaches a certain limit, it is turned off and the compressed air is held in the tank until it needs to be used. Compressed air is used for many applications. 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. The air is forced into a chamber with decreased volume in the positive-displacement model and this is how the air becomes compressed. After maximum pressure is attained, a valve or port opens and the air is discharged into the outlet system from the compression chamber. There are different kinds of positive-displacement compressors including Vane Compressors, Piston-Type and Rotary Screw Compressors.

**Dynamic Displacement Air Compressors** Axial compressors and centrifugal air compressors fall under the dynamic displacement air compressors. Pressure energy is transformed via discharged kinetic energy with a rotating component. A spinning impeller generates centrifugal force, accelerating and decelerating contained air, creating pressurization. Air compressors generate heat and require a method for heat disposal; usually with some type of air cooling or water. Compressor cooling also relies on atmospheric changes. 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** Numerous industries rely on air compressors. For example, supplying clean air at moderate pressure to a diver that is supplied for surface submersion, supplying clean air of high-pressurization to fill gas cylinders and supplying pneumatic HVAC controls with moderately pressurized clean air to power pneumatic tools including jackhammers and filling up high-pressure air tanks to fill vehicle tires. Copious amounts of moderate pressure air are generated for numerous industrial applications.

**Types of Air Compressors** Most air compressors are the reciprocating piston style, the rotary vane model or the rotary screw kind. These types of air compressors are favored 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. 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. They need adequate ventilation for their gas exhaust and are quite noisy. Indoor applications including warehouses, production facilities, garages and workshops that offer easy access to electricity typically rely on electric-powered air compressors.

**Rotary-Screw Compressor** One of the most popular air compressors available is the rotary-screw model. This model of gas compressor relies on a positive-displacement mechanism of the rotary type. These models are often used to replace piston compressors in vast industrial applications where large volumes of high-pressure air are required. 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. Rotors are used by the rotary-screw compressors to make gas compression possible. Dry-running rotary-screw models use timing gears. These components are important to ensure the female and male rotors operate perfectly aligned. Lubricating oil fills the space between the rotors in oil flooded rotary-screw models. This serves as a hydraulic seal while simultaneously transferring mechanical energy between the rotors. Starting at the suction area, gas moves

through the threads as the screws rotate. This makes the gas pass through the compressor and leaves through the ends of the screws. 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. Food processing plants, industrial applications requiring constant air and automated manufacturing facilities use 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** A scroll compressor is used to compress refrigerant. It is popular with supercharging vehicles, in vacuum pumps and commonly used in air-conditioning. 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 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 motion traps and pumps the fluid between the 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. The Archimedean spiral is found in flexible tubing variations. It functions similarly to a tube of toothpaste and resembles 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. With zero valves, seals or glands, this equipment stays simple to operate in maintenance terms. Compared to additional pump items, this tube or hose piece is fairly low cost.