

## Generators, Light Towers, Compressors, and Heaters

Used Compressors Everett - 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. 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 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 multiple methods for air compression. 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. Once the ultimate pressure is found, a port or valve opens to discharge the air from the compression chamber into the outlet system. There are different kinds of positive-displacement compressors including Vane Compressors, Piston-Type and Rotary Screw Compressors.

**Dynamic Displacement Air Compressors** The dynamic air compressors consist of centrifugal air compressors and axial compressors. 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. Air compressors create heat and need a method to dispose of the heat, typically with some kind of water or air cooling mechanism. Atmospheric changes are also taken into consideration during 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** 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. 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 types of air compressors are favored for portable and smaller applications.

**Air Compressor Pumps** Oil-less and oil-injected are the two main kinds 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. Overall, the oil-less system is considered to deliver higher quality.

**Power Sources** Air compressors can be utilized with many different power sources. 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 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 compressors are often used in industrial applications in place of piston compressors. They are popular for jobs that depend on high-pressure air. Impact wrenches and high-power air tools are common. The rotary-screw gas compression unit has a continuous rhythm; featuring minimum pulsation which is a hallmark of piston model units. Pulsation can contribute to 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 responsible to make sure the female and male rotors operate in perfect alignment. 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. 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. 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. 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**  
A scroll compressor is used to compress refrigerant. The scroll compressors are popular in air-conditioning equipment, supercharging vehicles and vacuum pumps. 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 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. 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. The lack of glands, seals and valves keeps them simple to operate and fairly inexpensive in terms of maintenance. Compared to many other pump models, this tube or hose feature is relatively low cost.