

## Generators, Light Towers, Compressors, and Heaters

Used Compressors Alaska - 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 used for many applications. 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. These methods are divided into positive-displacement or roto-dynamic categories. 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. Vane Compressors, Rotary Screw Compressors, and Piston-Type are popular kinds of positive-displacement compressors. Dynamic Displacement Air Compressors The dynamic air compressors consist of centrifugal air compressors and axial compressors. A rotating component discharges its' kinetic energy and it eventually converts 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. Changes in the atmosphere play a role in compressor cooling. Many factors need to be considered for this kind of equipment including the power available from the compressor, inlet temperature, the location of application and ambient temperature. Air Compressor Applications Air compressors are used in many different industries. Air compressors are used to provide pneumatic power to equipment such as air tools and jackhammers, to fill tires with air, to supply clean air with moderate pressure to divers and much more. Moderate pressurized air is used in large capacities for a variety of industrial jobs. 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-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 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. Often, gas and diesel-powered models are used in remote places that do not have great electricity access. Gas and diesel models are noisy and emit exhaust. Interior locations such as workshops, warehouses, garages and production facilities have power and can rely on quieter, electric-powered models. Rotary-Screw Compressor One of the most sought after compressors is the rotary-screw compressor. 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. 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. Compressors use rotors to create gas compression in the rotary-screw compressor. Dry-running rotary-screw models use timing gears. These items ensure the perfect alignment of the male and female rotors. Lubricating oil fills the space between the rotors in oil flooded rotary-screw models. This design creates a hydraulic seal and transfers mechanical energy in between the rotors simultaneously. 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. Fast speed and rotation are behind minimizing the ratio of a leaky flow rate or 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 Compressing air or refrigerant is made possible with a scroll compressor. 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 machine has dual inter-leaving scrolls that complete the pumping, compressing and pressurizing fluids such as liquids and gases. One of the scrolls is usually in a fixed position and the other scroll orbits extensively with no rotation. This dynamic action traps and compresses or pumps fluid between both 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. 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. The lack of glands, seals and valves keeps them simple to operate and fairly inexpensive in terms of maintenance. Compared to additional pump items, this tube or hose piece is fairly low cost.