## SMC CORPORATION OF AMERICA

## **Energy Saving in Pneumatic Systems**

### Ecologically Responsible Pneumatic Systems

## **Solutions That Save**



# **Objectives**

At the end of this course, the student should be able to:

- Formulate an energy saving program
- Quantify the benefits of energy saving
- Identify areas for energy savings
- Implement energy saving opportunities



# What is Energy Saving?

 Energy Saving is the practice of decreasing the quantity of energy used. It may be achieved through efficient energy use, in which case energy use is decreased while achieving a similar outcome, or by reduced consumption of energy services.



## **Energy Saving Opportunities**



# Over 95 percent of compressed air systems have low-cost energy saving opportunities.

- Based on audits conducted by the U.S. Department of Energy



## **Energy Saving Opportunities**





### Why don't we stop using compressed air?



## **Cost of Electricity**

### Average Retail Price of Electricity to Ultimate Customers by End-Use Sector, September 2009

(Cents per kilowatthour)	Residential	Commercial	Industrial
Census Division	Sep-2009	Sep-2009	Sep-2009
New England	17.68	15.23	13.3
Middle Atlantic	16.22	14.09	8.42
East North Central	11.44	9.14	6.59
West North Central	9.74	7.66	5.96
South Atlantic	11.66	9.7	6.65
East South Central	9.55	9.04	5.7
West South Central	11.29	8.94	5.99
Mountain	10.81	8.96	6.65
Pacific Contiguous	13.74	13.43	9.25
Pacific Noncontiguous	22.53	19.43	18.2



Source: Energy Information Administration http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/electricity/epm/table5\_6\_a.html

## **Cost of Compressed Air**

#### Calculations will typically use these values:

- 8,760 hours of operation
  - •(24 hours/day X 365 days/year = theoretical maximum)
- 90% electrical motor efficiency (0.90)
- 4 SCFM per BHP (Brake Horsepower)
- \$0.10 per Kw hour (varies per location, see page 6).

#### The power-cost formula is:

 $Annual Cost = \frac{BHP \times 0.746 \times Hours of Operation \times Cost \ per \ kWh}{Motor \ Efficiency}$ 

For example: The annual cost of running a 200 HP compressor:

Annual Cost = 
$$\frac{200 \times 0.746 \times 8760 \times \$0.10}{0.90}$$
 = \$145,221.33



## **Cost of Compressed Air**

Let's look at this another way. . .

What is the annual cost of an air leak?

We have a leak in our system and we're losing 5 SCFM.

- Convert SCFM to BHP 5 SCFM / 4 SCFM per BHP = 1.25 BHP
- Apply the formula 1.25 x 0.746 x 8,760 x 0.10 / 0.90 = \$908/year

For another example. . .

What is our air blow application costing us?

- We use 9 SCFM in the application. 9 SCFM / 4 SCFM per BHP = 2.25 BHP
- The annual cost 2.25 x 0.746 x 8,760 x 0.10 / 0.90 = \$1,634/year



## Why do we use compressed air?

# When managed properly, compressed air is still the best power transmission system!

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Energy cost	Low	High
Installation	Complex	Simple
Initial cost	High	Low
Replacement Cost	High	Low
Service Life	Short	Long

Compressed air is frequently used in industry because of its favorable features, however it can be <u>expensive when not properly managed!</u>



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At \$0.08/kWh, 8760 hours/year

## Why save energy?

The decision to implement an energy savings program in a compressed air and pneumatic system is usually based on two main factors:

<u>Operational cost savings</u> (\$ directly into your pocket!)

### Environmental Responsibility

Reducing energy consumption

(Reducing carbon footprint)







# Why save energy?

The following benefits occur after energy savings measures are implemented:

- Reduction in maintenance
- Decreased downtime
- Increased production
- Decreased scrap rate
- Decreased number of compressors in operation





## Where is the energy used?





# How can we save energy in each of

### these areas?



## How can we save money?

Electricity accounts for approximately 80% of the total cost of operating a pneumatic system. A small increase in the amount spent on maintenance will considerably reduce the electricity cost.



## Where can we save energy?

Statistics based on 186 case studies performed by SMC



# **Savings Related to the Air Source**



### **Savings Related to the Supply System**





## **Savings Related to Air Leakage**

**Fitting & Tubing** Actuators **Piping** Valves **FRL** 

24%











## **Two Steps to Energy Saving**



**Production Capacity** 

## Where to Start? . . .

## ... "Lean Thinking"

We suggest using a holistic approach and Six Sigma principles to develop an Energy saving program.

- Define: How much energy is consumed to produce compressed air?
  - Calculate: How much compressed air is used?
- Measure: How much compressed air is wasted?
  - Calculate: The potential savings?
- Analyze: Identify causes of waste.
- Improve: Remedy causes of waste.
- Control: Continue to measure, analyze and improve.



## **Define and Measure**

### "If you can't measure it, you can't manage it,"

- Ø A baseline needs to be established.
- Ø Temperature and dew point are useful air system measurements...However, the key metrics are:

Ø Pressure

- Ø Rate of air flow
- Ø Electrical consumption
- Ø This trio helps to determine the cost, monitor system operation and establishes a baseline for evaluating future modifications.



### **Define and Measure Solutions**

Monitor flow and establish a baseline to measure and control improvements.





- How do we measure flow?
  - CFM at stated Pressure (Actual volume of flow & Actual pressure)
    CFM Free Air Delivery (14.7psia, 70° F, 0% Relative Humidity)
  - SCFM (14.7psia, 68º F, 36% Relative Humidity)
  - Liters per minute ANR (14.7psia, 68° F, 65% Relative Humidity)
  - Normal Liters per minute (14.7psia, 32º F, 0% Relative Humidity)
  - SCFM = L/min \* 28
    - Which version of Liters per minute? See next slide...



#### Flow Rate Settings

Specifying Air flow capacity or air consumption

Reference	Temperature	Pressure	RH
ANR Atmosphere Normale de Reference. The metric measurement of flow: 1/min ANR, m <sup>3</sup> /min ANR	20°C (68°F)	101.3 KPa (14.7 psia)	65%
Nl/min (Normal liter) Normal l/min , that is related back to normal inlet conditions.	0°C (32°F)	101.3 KPa (14.7 psia)	0%
ExampleAssume a flow of 10 N l/min. What does this looks likeGeneral Gas Equation: $P1*V1 = P2*V2$ T1T2Normal Condition: T1 = 0°C (273°K) , P1 = 101.3 K volume V1 = 10 l/minANR: T2= 20°C (293°K), P2 = 101.3 KPa (14.7 psia)	in ANR? XPa (14.7 psia) ), V2= unknov	) wn	
V2= (P1*V1*T2)/P2*T1 V2= 101.3 * 10 * 293/ 101.3 * 273 V2= 10.7 l/min ANR			



## **Define & Measure Solutions**

#### **Monitor Pressure**

**Develop a pressure profile. Take readings at the following points:** 

- 1. Main supply components
- 2. Beginning and end of the main piping system
- 3. Points of use







## Analyze: Identify Energy Saving Opportunities

o The following steps have been created to locate energy savings improvement opportunities in any manufacturing environment.

o Observing the following steps will provide simple and effective measures to corrective action in any compressed air and pneumatics system.



## Analyze: Identify Energy Saving Opportunities

- 1) Develop your system diagram
- 2) Identify OEM specified pressure & flow settings
- 3) Select a compressed air quality standard
- 4) Determine system pressure and flow requirements
- 5) Take corrective actions



### **Step One**

### Develop a basic diagram of your system.



## Step Two Identify OEM specifications for: Flow ( SCFM) Pressure (psi)

**Digital Flow Switch** 



**Digital Pressure Switch** 



## **Step Two Continued**

- A digital flow switch allows you to baseline the flow requirements of critical equipment running 24/7 and monitor it for deviation from the baseline.
  - A digital pressure switch can be installed to monitor overall system pressure, branch runs or individual drops. High, low and current pressures are available to assess pressure needs.



## **Step Two Example**



## **Step Three**

Select an ISO compressed air quality standard and verify that your equipment consistently delivers the compressed air quality required.

ISO 2001: 8573 Air Quality Standards

Quality Class	Pressure Dewpoint (100 PSI)	Oil Mist & Particulate (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
1	<b>-94</b> °F	0.01
2	-40 °F	0.1
3	-4 °F	1.0
4	<b>37.4</b> °F	5
5	<b>44.6</b> °F	
6	50 °F	



## **Step Three Continued**

Consider appropriate levels of filtration at the main-line, branch, and for specific equipment. **Monitor filtration**.

#### Air Quality Classes for Typical Applications

	Suggest Air Quality			Additional
Application	Solids	Water	Oil	Requirements
Air bearings, Tubing,	2	3	2	-
Gauging				
Instrumentation	2	3	2	_
Abrasive Blasting	3	3	-	-
Pharmaceuticals, Food &	3	1	2	Odor removal
Beverage				


### **Step Three Continued**

Filters are available to provide air suitable for virtually all applications.

Filter Model	AMG	AFF	AM	AMD	AMH	AME	AMF
Filter type	Water separator	Main line filter	Mist separator	Micro- mist separator	Micro-mist separator with pre- filter	Super mist separator	Odor removal filter
Element type	Resin mesh	Cotton paper	Glass fiber	Glass fiber	Glass fiber	Glass fiber	Adsorbent activated carbon
Particle size	6	3	3	1	1	1	1
Oil Content class	6	4	3	2	2	2	2



Use filters that perform to ISO 8573-1

Determine demand-side issues including pressure loss, excessive pressure, inappropriate use and intermittent demand.

Find, measure & verify air leakage on each line.









Left to right: Air Leakage Tester and compact manometer

Take corrective action.

Re-evaluate compressor and dryer controls and see the effect improvements have made on the energy bill.

> SMC's IDFB Refrigerated Air Dryers





#### **Pneumatic System Savings**

The top target areas of energy savings in pneumatic systems that need to be "Analyzed and Improved" are:

- 1. Leaks
- 2. Air Blow & Inappropriate Usage
- 3. Excessive Pressure
- 4. Intermittent Demand
- 5. Design Alternatives



#### Ecologically Conscious Pneumatic Systems

#### **Solutions That Save**

Leaks



# Where to look for leakage?

Frequent leaks

 Cylinder rod seals
 Connections
 Hoses and tubing
 Other components



# **Remedies for leakage?**

- Leak Detection
- Repair or Replace
- **Preventative Maintenance**
- Fitting and Tubing "Crash Cart"
- Consolidate / Match fitting and tubing sizes
- Universal Fittings



#### Air Leakage

Leaks are the thieves in any compressed air system, causing the compressor to operate even during machine stoppage.





#### **Actuator Example/Solutions**

**Actuators** 





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Low quality cylinders begin to leak around the rod-seal after 1 million cycles or less and fail after 7 million cycles. This leaking cylinder costs \$73 more per year compared to a nonleaking cylinder .

#### Cylinders are available which last 5x longer!



#### Fitting Example/Solutions

70% of tubing and fitting leaks are caused by improperly cut tubing!

Use of tubing cutters ensures a 90 degree cut 100% of the time.

Use fittings which do not require a perfectly straight cut



#### **Tubing Cutters**

TK-1 Applicable tubing O.D.: 13mm or less. TK-2 Applicable tubing O.D.: 18mm or less.

**TK-3 (Simple type)** Applicable tubing O.D.: 12mm or less.









#### **Tubing Example/Solutions**

Leaks due to worn Leaks due to worn tubing can be solved by using double layer tubing.











#### Air leak tester



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PARABOLIC DISH AND ULTRASONIC LEAK DETECTOR

#### **Cost of Air Leaks & Potential Savings**

DISCHARGE THROUGH AN ORIFICE								
DIAMETER OF ORIFICE, INCHES								
	1/16	1/8	1/4	1/2	3/4	1 INCH		
PRESSURE		DISCHARGE IN CUBIC FEET OF AIR PER MINUTE						
70 PSI	4.79	19.2	76.7	307	690	1227		
Annual Cost To Operate	\$590	\$2,269	\$9,062	\$36,281	\$81,545	\$145,009		
100 PSI	6.49	26	104	415	934	1661		
Annual Cost To Operate	\$765	\$3,072	\$12,290	\$49,045	\$110,382	\$196,300		
125 PSI	7.90	31.6	126	506	1138	2023		
Annual Cost of Leak	\$931	\$3,734	\$14,890	\$59,800	\$134,491	\$239,082		

#### **Case Study**

#### A recent leak detection exercise during an energy audit at a large plant found 276 leaks!

## 642.5 SCFM Annual cost = \$ 40,410

All of these leaks were documented and tagged, so the entire cost can be eliminated by replacing these components.

### **Case Study**

Tag #	Location in Plant	Component Port Size		Leak Description	SCFM	COST
410	Coater #1, start of line.	Fitting	3/8"	Copper fitting leak.	3	\$188.72
411	Coater #1, FF belt #2.	Valve	1/2"	Manual valve leak.	2	\$125.81
412	Coater #1, reject chute.	Valve	3/8"	Pneumatic valve leak. Pic #6646.	3	\$188.72
413	CTR #2, finished, #1 conveyor.	Valve	3/8"	Pneumatic valve leak. Pic #6647.	2.00	\$125.81
414	#2 CTR cooler, FEG machine inlet.	Filter-Regulator	1/2"	Filter/regulator leak. Pic #6648.	1	\$62.91
415	Behind and above #3 CTR weigh off chute, at inlet.	Regulator	1/4"	Regulator leak, pic #6650.	1	\$62.91
416	#3 CTR, Dryer #3.	Filter	1/2"	Filter leak. SN: F602048BJ/MS. Pic #6652.	0.5	\$31.45
417	Under stage C conveyor, discharge screw.	Filter	3/4"	Filter leak. Pic #6657.	1	\$62.91
418	Under stage C conveyor, discharge screw.	Valve	1"	Ball valve leak. Pic #6658.	10	\$629.06

#### **Case Study**















#### **Case Study – Remediation**

 Fixing the leaks discovered at this plant will save \$ 40,410 per year.

#### To realize long-term savings, launch a Leak Remediation Campaign

- Tag audible leaks as they develop
- Notify maintenance.
- Perform ultrasonic leak detection quarterly
- Assemble a leak repair crash cart to ensure that replacement components are in stock
- Consider Automatic Leak Detection Systems (more...)



# System

• SMC has developed an **ALDS** (automatic leak detection system – patent pending ) aimed to make **leak detection totally automatic**.

• With **ALDS**, it is possible to achieve the following **goals** with more accuracy :

✓ Leakage value: The system is able to detect and report the leakage rate in NI/min.

✓ Position: we can define which valve, tubing or cylinder is leaking.





#### **ALDS** – Basic Concept

• ALDS is based on a block consisting of a Flow Meter and a diverting valve installed on the main air supply line of the machine, which interacts with the machine through software (sequence instructions) integrated in the machine software (PLC)



#### **ALDS – Practical Example** – Definition

#### **Starting Point**

- Define the machine, circuit and other variables
- Section branches / determine baseline flow rate
- Step by Step Leakage Detection Test
  - Establish the machine's working flow rate
  - Each actuator will be moved sequentially and flow recorded
- Details on the Cylinders
  - Leakage value defined mathematically for each branch of circuit

#### Conclusions

- Leakage report



#### Ecologically Conscious Pneumatic Systems

#### **Solutions That Save**

Air Blow



## **Topics in Air Blowing**

# Examples/Solutions

- -Turn off when not needed!
- Properly size nozzles and piping
- -Inappropriate Usage
  - Other solutions may exist!
- Potential Savings
- Case Studies



#### **Air Blow Applications**



#### **Air Blow**

Many factories do not regulate air pressure to air blow applications or blow guns. OSHA Directive 100-1 states that air should be regulated below 30 PSI for cleaning applications.

#### Reduce Air Consumption From Blowing

Air Blowing





**VMG Blow Gun** 

## **Air Blow Applications**

#### **Pressure Along the Jet Axis**



+

Measures such as high efficiency nozzles and adjustable blow guns can reduce air consumption by 50 – 75% and *increase* impact pressure!













# SINC.

## **Energy Savings Program**



Air blow characteristics calculated with Energy Savings Program



	Nozzle Diameter mm	Pressure before nozzle MPa	Distance of work mm	Impact Pressure MPa	Air flow rate dm <sup>3</sup> /min (ANR)
Current	4.0	0.02	100	0.0014	120
Improvement	1.8	0.09	100	0.0014	52
	1.0	0.29	100	0.0014	33






#### Air Blow Solutions Recommended Solutions for Air-Blow





#### **Air Blow Solutions**

Reduce pressure loss and air consumption while increasing work surface impact.



#### Our example plant currently uses air blow to: – Move, cool, or guide product – Dry and clean conveyor belts.









While some of the uses were efficient and practical, there were also applications where air blow was used quite inefficiently.

No Regulator
No Nozzle
Too Far
Misdirected





Air Consumption = 7 SCFM or \$440 per year

No RegulatorHigh Pressure

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#### Air Consumption = 13 SCFM or \$818 per year

Air Knives
High Consumption
High Pressure
Necessary?



#### Air Consumption = 25 SCFM or \$1,572 per year



# 45 PSIG Continuous Ineffective?

		Statistics		
TIME S. S.		Min.	Avg.	Max.
	Flow (SCFM)	21.90	22.50	23.00
	Pressure (psi)	43.30	44.61	45.20
		22		



## Air Consumption = 22.5 SCFM or \$1,415 per year

Air Blow Applications before Improvements		
Location	SCFM	
1. Packaging Baggers 1 & 2 - Windjet air knife (24 SCFM each)	48 SCFM	
2. Packaging LL107 Baggers 1 & 2 - air knife (19 SCFM each)	38 SCFM	
3. Packaging BIB 128 Baggers 1 & 2 - air knife (5 SCFM each)	10 SCFM	
4. Packaging BIB 202 - 5 air knives	40 SCFM	
5. Packaging Line 9 Bottom Maker Infeed - 1/4" orifice	10 SCFM	
6. #3 CTR Supply Bin - 2 broken/missing air knives	30 SCFM	
7. Processing Cutter - Exair Super Air Knives (2)	29 SCFM	
8. Processing West - crimped copper tubing	13 SCFM	
9. Processing East - 1/4" open tube	7 SCFM	
10. Processing - 4 Windjet air knives	23 SCFM	
11. Packaging 4 & 3 - Air bars (2)	25 SCFM	
12. Packaging CV0404 - Windjet - no regulator	24 SCFM	

## Total Air Blow Compressed Air Consumption 297.00 SCFM

<b>CURRENT ANNUAL CONSUMPTION AND COST</b>			
Total Air Blow Compressed Air Consumption	297.00 SCFM		
Total bhp to Produce that Air	58.67 bhp		
Total kWh to Produce that bhp	43.77 kW		
TOTAL ANNUAL COST TO RUN AIR BLOW	\$18,305		



Air Blow Applications after Improvements		
Location	SCFM	
1. Packaging Baggers 1 & 2 - KNH nozzles regulated to 50 psi	10 SCFM	
2. Packaging LL107 Baggers 1 & 2 - KNH nozzles reg. to 50 psi	10 SCFM	
4. Packaging BIB 128 Baggers 1 & 2 - KNH nozzles reg. to 30 psi	6 SCFM	
5. Packaging BIB 202 - 5 KNH nozzles regulated to 30 psi	15 SCFM	
11. Packaging Line 9 Bottom – KNH nozzle regulated to 30 psi	3 SCFM	
12. #3 CTR Supply Bin - 2 KNH nozzles regulated to 30 psi	6 SCFM	
19. Processing West - use KNH nozzle regulated at 30 psi	13 SCFM	
20. Processing East - add KNH nozzle/regulator at 30 psi	3 SCFM	
21. Processing - Remove air knives - use guide arm	0 SCFM	
22. Packaging 4 & 3 - Remove air bars - use guide rails	0 SCFM	
23. Packaging Mezzanine - use KNH/add regulator at 50 psi	5 SCFM	

### SNC.

POTENTIAL ANNUAL CONSUMPTION AND COST		
Initial air blow consumption	297.00 SCFM	
Total air blow after improvements	71.00 SCFM	
Total savings	226.00 SCFM	
Total savings in bhp	45.56 bhp	
Total annual savings after improvements	\$14,216	



#### **Case Study – Other Findings**

# No Regulator No Nozzle 55 SCFM





#### Air Consumption = 55 SCFM or \$3,460 per year

Regulator
High Efficiency Gun
High Efficiency Nozzle
Reduced Consumption



Statistics					
	Min.	Avg.	Max.		
Flow (SCFM)	7.55	7.79	8.32		
Pressure (psi)	75.40	76.66	78.20		

Air Consumption = 8 SCFM or \$503 per year



Savings ~ 85%

#### **Air Blow - Savings**

- To improve the efficiency of the current state of air blow:
- Remove air blow unnecessary to production
- Move air blow as close to the work surface as possible
- Regulate pressure to the lowest level of effectiveness
  Observe OSHA standards regarding orifice pressure
- Maintain supply pressure with a locking or fixed regulator
   Size supply tubing correctly
- Replace existing nozzles with high-efficiency models
- Shut off circuits when not needed in the production process
- Consider installing centrifugal blowers as an alternative to air blow



#### **Air Blow - Summary**

- Typical areas of concern are unregulated air blow applications, continually running air blow, open orifices and large blow guns.
- Simple solutions such as installing regulators, nozzles, and valves are quick, cost-effective approaches to solving these problems and operating much more efficiently.



# Excessive

Pressure

#### Ecologically Conscious Pneumatic Systems

#### **Solutions That Save**



#### **Topics in Excessive Pressure**

#### Examples

- Increased pressure to compensate for wear
- Variations in quality of regulators
- Locking Regulators are necessary

#### Solutions

- Show difference in energy usage at lower pressures
- Potential Savings
- Case Studies



**Excessive Pressure** 

#### **Clogged filters are a main cause of** pressure loss.





PRESSURE **SWITCH** 

ELEMENT **SERVICE INDICATOR** 



Use filters with metal bowls, locking regulators, embedded gauges and differential pop-up indicators or gauges.







#### Use Gauges with visual pressure range display.





Or a gauge which will monitor differential pressures (PSE200)



**Section 1:** Use products that allow you to recognize maintenance needs.

**Example:** As pressure builds before a clogged filter, flow is sacrificed downstream. The compressor must work harder to overcome this pressure differential, which costs you money.

Use a Filter with Element Service Indicator to indicate excessive pressure drop





**Section 2:** Pressure monitoring devices allow you to detect pressure loss issues before they become a problem.

**Example:** To prevent excessive filter clogging, the differential pressure gauge is put in line. Use a pressure switch which shows current system pressure, and stores high and low pressures.

From left to right: Differential Pressure gauge; Digital Pressure Switch







Regulating pressure to air tools allows tools to generate the appropriate amount of torque to do work without damaging the tool.

50-75% of air consumption can be saved. .

A regulator with locking cap prevents setting adjustment

Use couplers designed not to

leak or restrict flow.





A double-force guided cylinder can decrease the dimensions and air consumption of a circuit.



#### **Solutions for Excessive Pressure**

Pressure on the return stroke can be lower, since large forces are not generally required on many applications.



#### **Case Study – Excessive Pressure**

- There were four main causes of excessive pressure in our example plant:
  - Broken, unreadable or missing pressure gauges
  - FRL components
  - Inappropriate settings.
  - Dot Matrix LASER





#### **Case Study – Pressure Gauges**

- Broken or unreadable gauges
  - Unable to confirm correct setting
  - Operator may adjust pressure too high to be "sure"





#### **Case Study – FRL Components**

- Clogged filter elements
  - More pressure is required to flow through clogged filter elements
  - Leaking FRL components







#### **Case Study – Inappropriate Settings**

- Required pressure is labeled for many applications
  - Pressure gauges show higher setting than label
  - Higher pressure consumes more air



Regulator is set for 112 PSI even though label states 80 PSI





#### **Case Study – Domino DDC3**

- DDC3 used for LASER marking
  - Air used for cooling & cleaning
  - Unit requires 4 ~ 7 SCFM air flow
  - no pressure requirement
  - Actual flow averaging 26.13 SCFM





#### **Case Study – Domino DDC3**





Annual Air Consumption Beyond Requirement = 19 SCFM

# Intermittent Demand

#### Ecologically Conscious Pneumatic Systems

#### **Solutions That Save**



#### **Topics in Intermittent Demand**

### Examples

- Machines need to shut off when not in use
  Isolate during breaks, maintenance, etc.
  Most machines operate 60% of the time
  Solutions
  - -3-port valves
- Potential Savings
- Case Studies


### **Intermittent Demand Testing**

# **ISOLATION OF CIRCUIT AREAS**

#### The compressor may be operating continuously due

to leakage.





## **Intermittent Demand Testing**

# Test to determine the leakage in your pneumatic system:

 Measure the average flow rate when equipment is in production

 Measure the average flow rate when equipment is not in production

 The difference between the two will indicate usage of compressed air due to leakage!

## How can we fix Intermittent Demand?

- Ø Intermittent demand is an issue in every facility.
- Ø In most cases, if OEM equipment is not running, then compressed air should not be supplied.
- Ø There are simple, cost-effective ways to solve common intermittent demand issues:
  - Use a three-way valve that shuts air off to equipment when no work piece is present.
  - Use a mechanical valve that actuates when a work piece is present.



# Air supply to the equipment should be stopped when it is not operating.







#### REDUCE AIR CONSUMPTION by 100% DURING PERIODS OF NON-OPERATION (EVENINGS, WEEKENDS, ETC...) BY INSTALLING SOLENOID VALVES ON EACH AIR-LINE.











#### **Consumption during weekends**



Work precision is often measured using an air micro gauge that purges air whether work is present or not.



Up to 95% of purging air can be conserved using a three port mechanical valve circuit.

- <u>STOP</u> costly air purging when there is no work to be done.
- One solution includes using a simple 3 port mechanical valve.





Paint must be continually stirred so that it does not harden. This means that air is consumed by the paint mixer even during line stoppage.





In this case, it was not feasible to stop the mixing operation, but it was determined that the mixing could slow during times when painting operations were halted.



✓Turn vacuum on only when it is needed.

 ✓ In some applications, a check valve ejector may be used to hold work while the air source is off.

✓ 50-75% of air can be conserved.





# **Case Study – Bottling Line**

- On a bottling line, multiple air-blow jets are used on cap feeders to assist in feeding the caps into a capper. When the capper stops, the air blow continues to run, consuming 20 SCFM.
- A high level sensor could send a signal to a valve that would shut the air off when the capper stops.
- Suppose the line stops for 5 minutes every hour or 730 hours per year on 10 different cappers throughout the plant.
- This equates to \$303 per year per capper, \$3,030 per year for all cappers in the plant!



## **Case Study – Snack Line**



## **Case Study – Snack Line**



**Snack Chip Packaging Line** 

SMC.

### **Case Study – Snack Line**

640 liter/min is 22.60 SCFM.

To convert to HP we need to divide by 4.5, which equals: 5.02 HP.
Using a cost per Kwh of \$0.14 and annual hours of operation at 8760 (24/7/365) the cost is \$5,103 for just the leaks on each packaging line.
8 packaging lines in this plant equates to \$40,824 per year for all packaging lines in the plant!
Without fixing any leaks and just shutting off the air during shut-down, the savings equals: \$13,607



## **Case Study – Air Knife**

#### **4th Floor Line F Cutters**

Air knives blow to keep packages together as they move down the line.

- Pressure is regulated down,
- but far away from product.

#### If moved closer:

- •Use lower pressure
- Uses less energy.

#### The knives are far away

- little impact pressure
- necessity of these knives?
- Knives blow continuously

 Controlled by a solenoid valve when not required.



### **Case Study – Air Knife**





### **Case Study - Solutions**

#### 4th Floor Line F1

There are two  $\frac{1}{4}$ " tubes running from a union tee fitting blowing air on the conveyor on line F1. This air is blowing continually, and was noticed blowing even when the line was down. Air Consumption = 30.00

SCFM





## **Case Study - Solutions**

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Floor – Line D Pack Cutter

As discussed in the air blow section, downstream of the pack cutter there are two air blow applications in use. Both applications are blowing constantly and are consuming an abundance of air. Air Consumption = 34.37 SCFM





## **Case Study - Solutions**

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Floor – Line D Box Filler

There are two Silvent air knives blowing to hold packages against the rail on line D. One is pointed correctly, and one is missing, however both are running constantly. Air Consumption = 37.30 SCFM





#### **Case Study – Intermittent Demand Summary**

	Intermittent Demand Applications	
1	4th Floor - Line F1 - 2 nozzles	5.84 SCFM
2	4th Floor - Line F1 - 1/4" tube (2) blowing @ 40 psi	20.46 SCFM
3	4th Floor - Line F Cutters - 1 Lechler/1 Windjet	11.64 SCFM
4	4th Floor - Line G Package Cutter - Windjet 727-15 @ line pressure	14.57 SCFM
5	7th Floor - Line E Pack Filler Belt - Air bar & 1/4" orifices (2) @ line pressure	34.37 SCFM
6	4th Floor - Line D Pack Cutter - Lechler knife & 1/4" orifice	34.37 SCFM
7	4th Floor - Line D Box Filler - 2 air knives	37.30 SCFM
8	6th Floor - Line 3 - Air blow bar (27 holes)	20.00 SCFM



## **Case Study – Hypothetical Cost**

#### The Hypothetical Cost of Intermittent Demand (Line F1 air blow)

Current Demand: Operates 24/7/365 (8760 hours) at a cost of \$1,541. Hypothetical (True) Demand : Operates 16 hours/day (5,840 hours) at a cost of \$1,028. (Includes downtime for breaks, maintenance, etc. )

#### The savings based on this intermittent demand is \$513.

Intermittent Demand Return on Investment Example	
Line F1's air blow cost of annual operation	\$1,541
Line F1's hypothetical cost of annual operation	\$1,028
Cost of Valve Reduces air blow annual operation by 5616 hours	\$79.35
Total Savings Year One	\$433.65



#### Ecologically Conscious Pneumatic Systems

# **Solutions That Save**



- Examples
  - Sizing
  - Double Acting VS. Single Acting
  - Tubing length: Filling tube with no benefit
  - Pressure Control
- Solutions
  - Right-Size Cylinders
  - Single Acting Cylinders
  - Shorten Tubing
  - Reduce pressure on non-working stroke
- Potential Savings
- Case Studies



#### **Model Selection Program**

#### **Output Screen**

#### **Choose the most efficient system:**





#### **Consider Single-Acting over Double Acting**

- •Ways to save:
- •Gravity Down?
- •Single Acting Cylinder?
- •Use Air Piloted Solenoid









# **Single Acting Cylinder**





#### **Energy Saving Lifter**



75% Savings



Ø Extend and retract strokes frequently do not require the same operating pressure. A reduction in pressure on the non-working side of the cylinder will lead to significant energy savings.



#### **Tubing Length**

- Consider that air used to fill the tubing on the way to the actuator is wasted! There is no work being done by this air!
- The conductance of tubing decreases dramatically with an increase in length
  - Shorten tubing as much as feasible
  - Beware that larger diameter = larger volume
  - Size tubing for flow required don't guess!



#### **Tubing Length**



**SNC** 

# **Energy Savings Program**

#### Suggestions on other ways to save:

- Ø Energy savings calculations include:
  - Compressed air cost
  - Compressor power
  - Energy conversion
  - Pressure drop of main piping
  - Max. recommended flow rate of main piping
  - Air pipeline network layout
  - Air leakage loss cost

**SNC** 

- Selection of air blow nozzle
- Selection of air blow piping

SMC-Pheumatic :	System-Energy	Saving Program	i Ver. 2			
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# How to Proceed

#### Ecologically Conscious Pneumatic Systems

# **Solutions That Save**



# How to Proceed

- Take corrective action.
- Ensure future performance by setting standards of efficiency for compressors and point-of-use pneumatic systems.
- Make system performance part of the preventative maintenance schedule.
- Continue to utilize SMC for technical support when you have questions.



# Thank you



If you have any questions or require SNC additional information, please contact your local SMC salesperson.