

# GEF - UNIDO - BEE PROJECT

on

“Promoting EE/RE in selected  
MSME Clusters in India”

## COMPRESSED AIR SYSTEMS

### Compressed Air

Fourth Utility, after  
Electricity, Natural Gas & Water



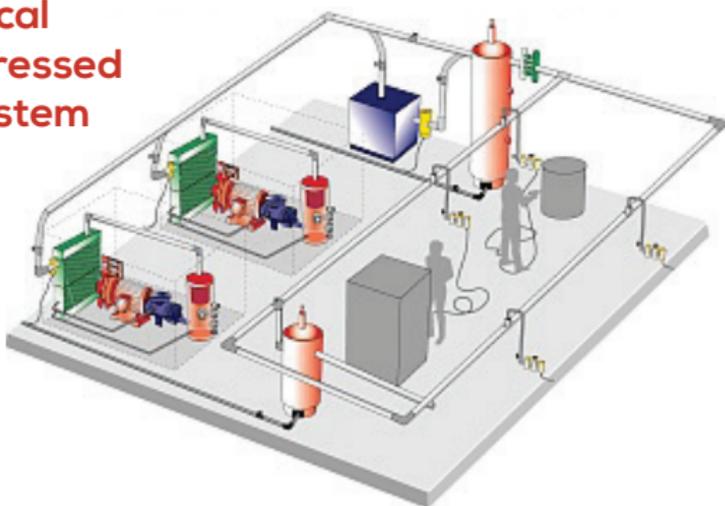
# 10%

of industrial electricity  
used to power air compressors



400 TWh : Electricity consumption in compressed air systems worldwide equals the electricity production of 110 coal fired power stations of 600 MW each & producing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of 400 Million Tonnes per year

### A Typical Compressed Air System



Source: Energy efficiency report Finland

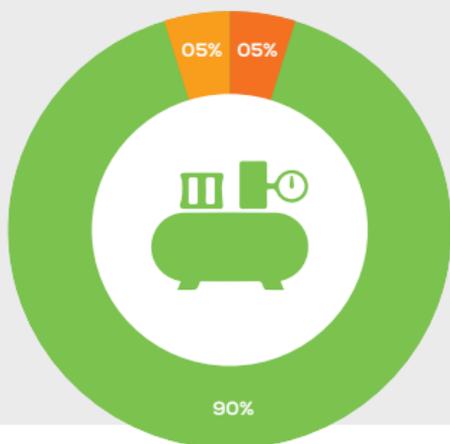


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# What does your Compressed Air Cost???



## Life Cycle Cost For A Compressor



- Energy Cost 90%
- Initial Cost 05%
- Maintenance Cost 05%

## Energy Cost of Running Air Compressor

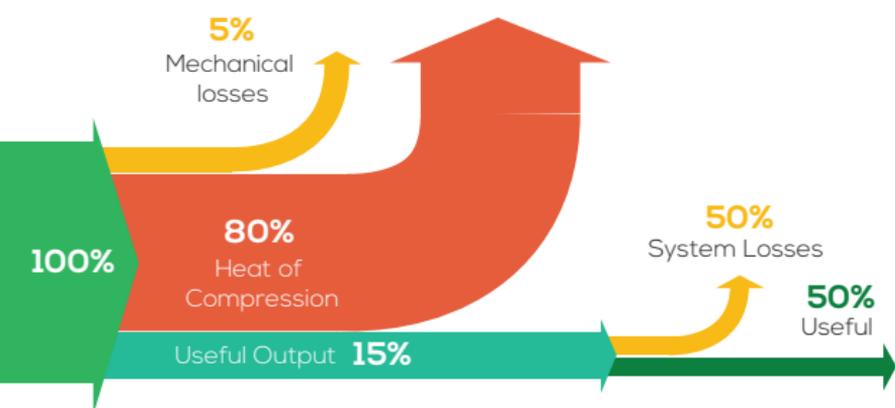
30 kW Compressor running continuously consumes ~200,000 kWh annually



@ rate of Rs. 6/kWh,  
Costs

12 Lacs/Year

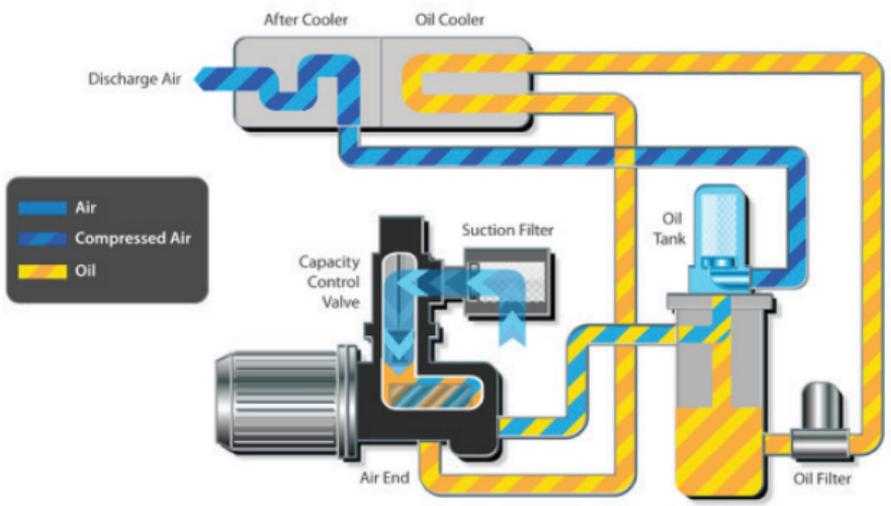
## Sankey Diagram of Compressed Air System



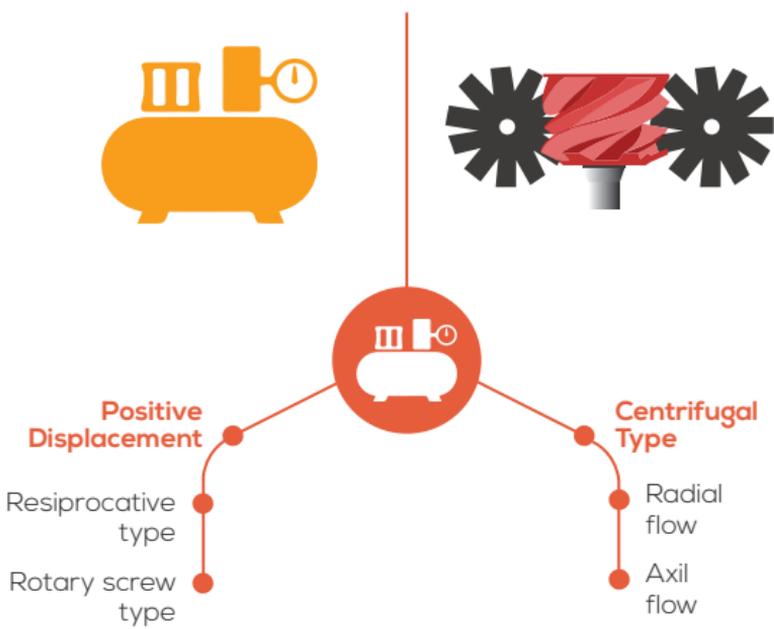
7.5% of input energy is actually being used usefully!



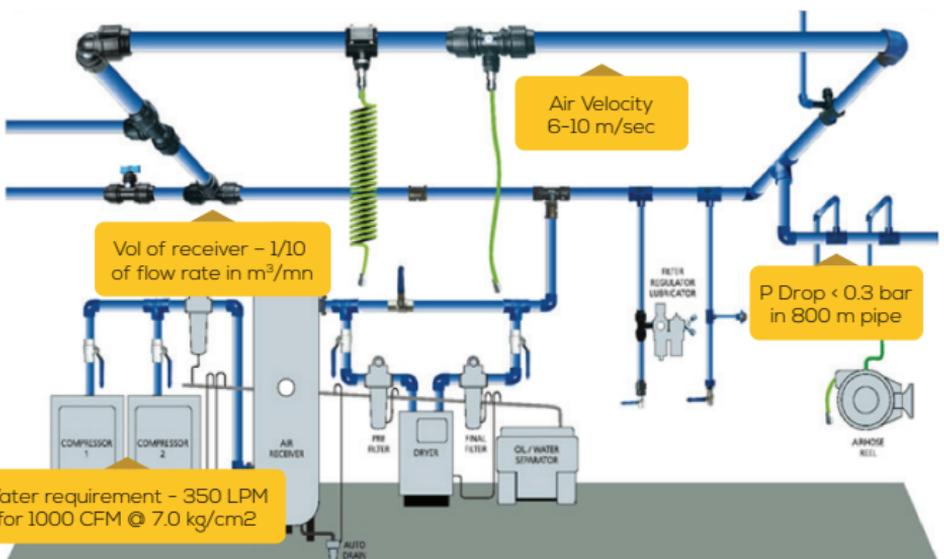
# Air Compressor working



## Type of Air Compressors



## Thumb Rules for compressed air system



Pipe Normal Bore (mm)	Pressure Drop (Bar) per 100m	Equivalent Power loss (kw)
40	1.80	9.5
50	0.65	3.4
65	0.22	1.2
85	0.04	0.2
100	0.02	0.1



# Capacity Test of compressors (Pumping Method)

$$\text{Average Compressor Delivery} = \frac{P_1 - P_2}{P} * V_r * \frac{1}{\Delta t}$$

$P_1$  = Initial pressure in receiver

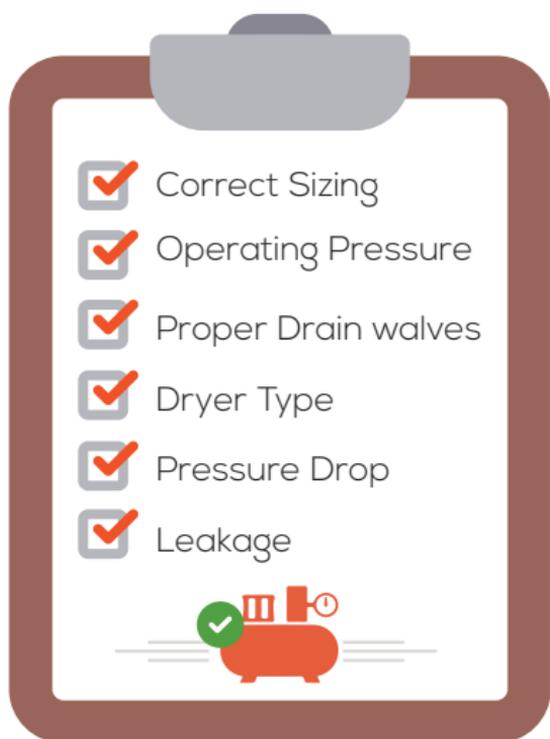
$P_2$  = Final pressure in receiver

$P$  = Atmospheric pressure

$V_r$  = Volume of air receiver

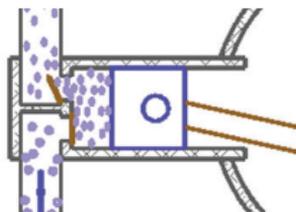
$\Delta t$  = Time taken for charging the receiver from  $P_1$  to  $P_2$

## Check list for efficient operation of Compressor



## Benefits of Dry Air Intake

Every 4°C rise in inlet air temperature results in a higher energy consumption by 1% to achieve equivalent output



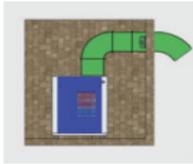
### Effect of Air Temperature on Power consumption

Inlate Temperture	Relative air Delivery	Power Saved
10	102.00	+1.4
15.5	100.00	Nil
21.1	98.01	-1.3
26.6	96.03	-2.4
32.2	94.01	-4.0
37.7	92.8	-5.0
43.3	91.2	-5.8

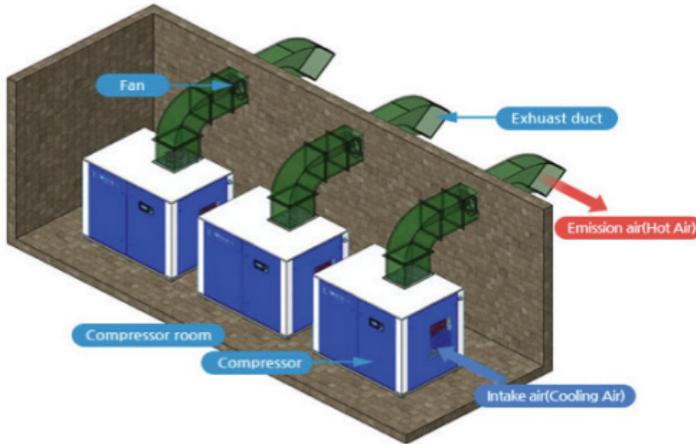


# Benefits of Lees Compressor Room Temperature

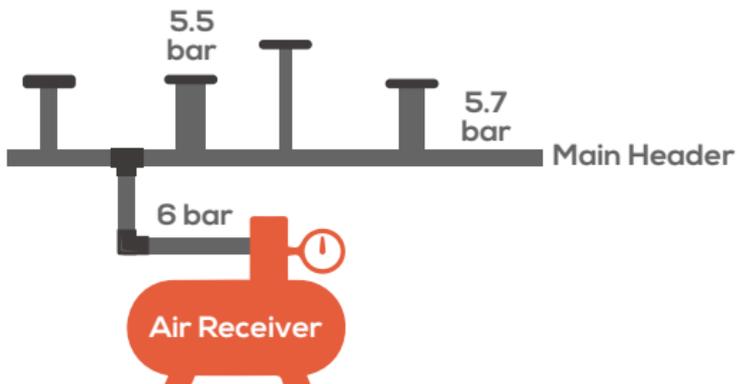
Side



Indoor temperature of 40°C below



## Pressure Settings



Typical energy wastage due to smaller pipe diameter for 170 m<sup>3</sup>/h (100CFM) Flow

Pipe Nominal Bore (mm)	Pressure drop (Bar) per 100 meters	Equivalent power losses (kW)
40	1.80	9.5
50	0.65	3.4
65	0.22	1.2
80	0.04	0.2
100	0.02	0.1

## Replacement of Inefficient Compressor



25% Power Savings



SEC – 0.21 kW/CFM  
Power Consumption – 21 kW

New Screw Compressor  
SEC – 0.16 kW/CFM  
Power Consumption – 16 kW

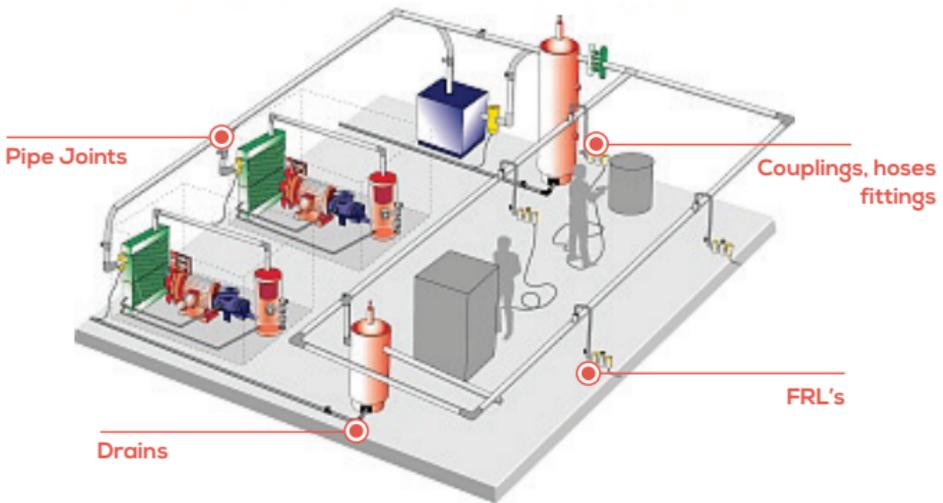
Always select compressor based on SEC (kW/CFM) not on kW and CFM separately



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# How Do We Define An Air Leak ?

Air that is compressed for the purpose of performing work but unadvertently escapes to atmosphere prior to use



## Common Leak Locations

## Cost of Leakage at 7kg/cm<sup>2</sup>



Orifice (mm)	Air Leakage (CFM)	Power Wasted (kW)	Annual Savings @ Rs 5/kWh
1.6	6.5	1.26	Rs 0.60 Lakhs
3.2	26	5.04	Rs 2.40 Lakhs
6.4	104	20.19	Rs 7.25 Lakhs

## Leakage Test

- Close all user points
- Charge the lines

$$\text{Air leakage } L = \left( \frac{T}{T+t} \right) * Q$$

$$\% \text{ air leakage} = \frac{\text{Air leakage}}{\text{Compressor Capacity}} * 100$$

T = On-load time of compressor

t = Off-load time of compressor

Q = Capacity of compressor



# Common Moniterable Parameters



Pressure – Pressure variation leads to decrease in system efficiency and energy consumption

Specific Power Consumption (kW/CFM) - Comparison of this value with OEM's catalogue gives deviation in SEC



Temperature – Increased temperature of compressed air means decrease in efficiency

Loading and Unloading Time



## List Of Energy Saving Ideas Compressed Air System



- Turn off compressors when not needed
- Select correct size air compressor
- Operate compressor at required pressure
- Install VFD
- Conduct leakage testing regularly and minimise system losses
- Replace compressed air with blower air for agitation
- Replace pneumatic tools with electric tools
- Provide ball valves at the user point to avoid compressed air wastage
- Use transvector nozzles in air hoses
- Cool inlet air to the compressor
- Provide sensors to sense unloading and switch off
- Replace inefficient compressors

# About Project

## Promoting Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy in Selected MSME Clusters in India

To develop and promote a market environment for introducing energy efficiency and enhanced use of renewable energy technologies in process applications in the selected energy-intensive MSME clusters under GEF UNIDO BEE project.

The main objective of the project is to increase the capacity building of suppliers of EE/RE product and service providers

### Disclaimer

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