

Compressors can work hard - really hard, often in 24/7 harsh operating conditions. Where rising energy costs are a concern, it makes good sense to ensure your system is operating efficiently and an effective compressed air maintenance regime can help to lower your costs.

Our BCAS members will maintain your compressors, downstream and ancillary equipment to the highest quality standards, offering a choice of planned, proactive or even predictive maintenance to keep your system running like clockwork.

Maintaining your system in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended service intervals is essential; not only to ensure long life and reliable operation, but to help prioritise energy performance. Using genuine spare parts, fitted by an authorised service agent will lower repair costs, minimise downtime and improve energy efficiency.

Read on for more details about how improving your compressed air system maintenance regime can help to cut your energy costs.

## The 10% Taskforce!

Join our campaign to cut compressed air energy wastage and take the equivalent of 317 thousand cars off the road, saving UK business over £147.5 million.

Visit the BCAS 10% Taskforce website below and share your energy saving tips. Working together, we can cut our carbon footprint from compressed air for a brighter future!



# Your guide to improved compressor maintenance

## 1

#### Location, location



Always locate compressors in a dry, clean, cool and well-ventilated area.

- Install extra ventilation to keep the compressor room as near to ambient temperature as possible
- It takes more energy to compress warm air, yet some compressor plant rooms can run at temperatures as high as 30°C. This can cause more frequent breakdowns as well as wasting energy (e.g. valves, bends)

## 2

## Think system first



A compressed air system is just that – a system – and each component part needs to be maintained regularly to help maximise efficient performance.

- Inspect regularly for air leaks in the compressed air pipework and have an action plan to remedy. Even the smallest leak can add up to big energy losses
- Check inlet filters and replace before the pressure drop across them becomes significant
- Include ancillary equipment, such as dryers, filters, air receivers and pipework in your regular maintenance checks

## 3

#### Maintain to gain



To keep your compressor running at optimum efficiency, it's important to maintain it regularly. Don't wait for a machine breakdown before you act.

A programme of routine maintenance can save time, energy costs and expense in the long term

- Speak to your local BCAS members about the range of maintenance services available
- Consider preventative, or even predictive monitoring – helping to identify potential compressor problems before they become a major issue

## Benefits of improved maintenance

- · Optimise compressed air system efficiency
- Avoid energy losses through poorly performing equipment
- Have confidence that your compressed air system is performing as it should – giving you time to concentrate on other energy-saving measures
- Avoid unplanned outages and downtime

## Our top tips

 Always use genuine spare parts, rather than alternatives. Genuine spare parts are designed in line with the equipment, ensuring that you do not unintentionally downgrade the performance of your equipment by installing components that are less than optimum

This can significantly impact filtration equipment and compressors too. The time taken to ensure your replacement parts are genuine could save you thousands in equipment failure and increased energy consumption

- Include leak detection in your weekly maintenance regime. Fixing just one tiny leak, will stop a lot of energy being wasted
- Monitor and control. Understand how your system is performing, make changes and optimise running hours, for improved electricity consumption. Speak to a BCAS member, they are always happy to assist in this area

#### More into

For more compressed air energy savings tips and advice, visit www.taskforce10.bcas.org.uk

