

10 Compressed Air Saving Tips

1. Shut off sections and machines that you do not use

A simple manual or motorized valve can save you thousands of euros/dollars. Make sure that air is not lost through leaks or machines standing in idle mode. Flow meters help to determine to which sections air is flowing.

2. Breathe cool, fresh and clean air

A compressor converts 90% of its power into heat. The compressor room heats up, while a compressor uses less energy to compress cold air. 3°C cooler air, already results in 1% energy savings.

3. Invest in an efficient control system

Have insight in your compressed air usage profile, so you can optimize your compressor control system. Ask an air audit specialist to perform an air audit, and make an improvement plan based upon the results.

4. Think about the required air quality

Clean compressed air is important for the life span of your compressed air installation. Choose the right quality carefully for specific processes whenever possible, as higher air quality results in higher energy costs.

5. Reduce offload hours

Electricity consumption of a compressor in offload stage costs 10-35% of the consumption during load hours. At >80% use of the capacity, the offload-loadcontrol is considered efficient. Choose the right control system.

6. Manage your leakage

In general, there is 20-40% of leakage in a compressed air installation. VPVision can be used as a global leakage management system and helps you to rank the leaks on savings potential. Invest in an ultrasound leak detector to find the leaks.

7. Balance your system

Is your compressor oversized? In some applications the compressor is bigger than necessary, for instance after changes in the production process. The payback time of the investment in a smaller compressor is often short.

8. Reduce the pressure

Every bar pressure reduction gives an instant win of 7% on your energy consumption. Invest in pressure regulators per production area, use buffer vessels and reduce pressure swings in your network.

9. Think of alternative uses

Compressed air is 8 times more expensive than electric power. However compressed air is often used, simply because it is present.

The VPFlowScope offers insight in the usage and helps you to select the right solution.

10. Choose the right pipe size and material

A proper pipe system is crucial to limit your pressure drop. Iron pipes tend to rust. Too small piping creates pressure loss. Use angular feed-ins on the main header to reduce pressure loss.

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About VPInstruments

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VPInstruments offers industrial customers easy insight into energy flows. We believe that industrial energy monitoring should be easy and effortless to enable insight, savings and optimisation.

VPInstruments products are recommended by leading energy professionals worldwide and offer the most complete measurement solution for compressed air flow, gas flow and electric energy consumption. Our monitoring software VPVision can be used for all utilities and enables you to see where, when and how much you can save.

Our products can be found all over the world. We serve all industrial markets; for example automotive, glass manufacturing, metal processing, food and beverage and consumer goods. We can help your industry too. Let us help you to open your eyes and start saving energy.

Proudly serving leading companies worldwide

Through our distributors and dealers, we serve clients worldwide to save on compressed air energy costs. A small selection of end users: Astrum UK (Steel castings), IKEA (Wholesale), GSK (Medicines), Kikkoman Foods, Libbey (Glass), Mars (Food), Samsung (Consumer goods), Nestlé (Food), O&I (Glass), Philips (Consumer goods), Rexam (Glass), Toyota (Automotive).

