

FESTO

SAVING ENERGY

from thin air

BUSINESSES WHICH USE COMPRESSED AIR TO DRIVE MACHINERY AND SYSTEMS OFTEN FAIL TO APPRECIATE THE ENERGY AND MONEY WHICH ARE WASTED THROUGH LEAKS. 'AFTER ALL, IT'S ONLY AIR', SEEMS TO BE THE ATTITUDE. BUT COMPRESSED AIR COSTS MONEY, SO CONSERVING IT AND USING IT MORE EFFICIENTLY CAN PROVIDE A WINDFALL.



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A study by the Fraunhofer ISI Institute (Compressed Air Systems in the European Union), estimated that around 42% of the total potential savings in compressed air production can be made simply by locating and eliminating leaks. So in this era of high energy prices, rising cost pressures and increasing climate change awareness, failure to deal with leaks is an energy-efficiency oversight that can no longer be overlooked.

Compressed knowledge

Finding and repairing leaks in a compressed air system does require specialist knowledge and skills. However, a training session with staff from Festo Didactic can quickly give your maintenance staff the benefit of skills and experience gained by our instructors, through many years of hands-on dealings with systems of all types and sizes.

More than 30,000 participants have already attended Festo Didactic training events – more than 2,900 of which take place every year worldwide. With more than 40 years' experience in training and consulting, Festo Didactic is the world leader in professional

qualification solutions for process and factory automation, and the best choice to provide the training your maintenance staff need to monitor and repair your compressed air system.

Led by highly experienced instructors, the training not only helps your employees to improve their pneumatics know-how, but also gives them the knowledge they need to develop compressed air systems for your business which are more efficient and provide more added value than your current set-up.

Festo Didactic pneumatics training courses already planned for 2013 include: Energy saving in pneumatic systems, Modern industrial pneumatics – Fundamentals, Modern industrial pneumatics for operators, Troubleshooting of electropneumatic systems using PLC controls, and many more.

Regular as breathing

Of course finding and dealing with leaks and inefficiencies in a system is not a one-off exercise. If a compressed air system is to continue operating at optimum efficiency, it must be continually

monitored and maintained. That's why Festo recommends installing condition monitoring and diagnostic systems, which help with early detection of wear, and of changes in pressures and flow rates.

The earlier you know about problems or potential problems, the sooner you can repair the leak to save wasting energy, or the sooner you can repair or replace the problem part to avoid the downtime that might result from a failure. And if downtime still occurs, finding the cause of the problem will be quicker and easier if you have diagnostic systems already in place.

Festo can help you to develop and implement an action plan, comprising regular analysis of your compressed air supply, consumption and quality, as well as regular leakage checks and fast repairs as required.

The result will be a compressed air system which remains in good condition and continues to operate at its optimum – helping you to realise continuing and lasting savings in energy and costs which you have created from, literally, thin air.

Hands-on or hand over?

Training from Festo Didactic can give your maintenance staff many of the skills they need to manage, monitor and maintain your compressed air system. However, some businesses prefer to hand over these responsibilities entirely to Festo, using a Festo Energy Saving Services package.

This package offers you a customised range of services, which will help you to identify and then exploit potential savings in compressed air. In consultation with you we can devise an individual service package, tailored to the specific needs and requirements of your business, your operating processes and your compressed air system.

A service package could comprise any elements of: Analysis (of your compressed air supply, its quality and leaks); Planning (to manage leaks); Implementation (repairing, optimising and monitoring); and Sustainment (regular repeat monitoring, analysis, leakage detection, training and consultation).

Answering the following questions will help you to assess which is the best option for your business:

Q. How much does it cost you to carry out a leak check internally, and how much for the analysis of compressed air supply, quality and consumption?

A.

Q. How long does it take you to look for leaks and carry out analyses in the entire plant?

A.

Q. Do you have the necessary measuring devices and expertise required for carrying out the measurements and for analysing and interpreting the results?

A.

Q. How much time and cost do you incur in working out which replacement parts are needed, and then ordering them?

A.

Q. How long does it take you to find the right replacement for old products which are no longer available?

A.

Q. Are your staff familiar with the latest technological solutions and do they have the necessary know-how to modernise or overhaul machines?

A.

