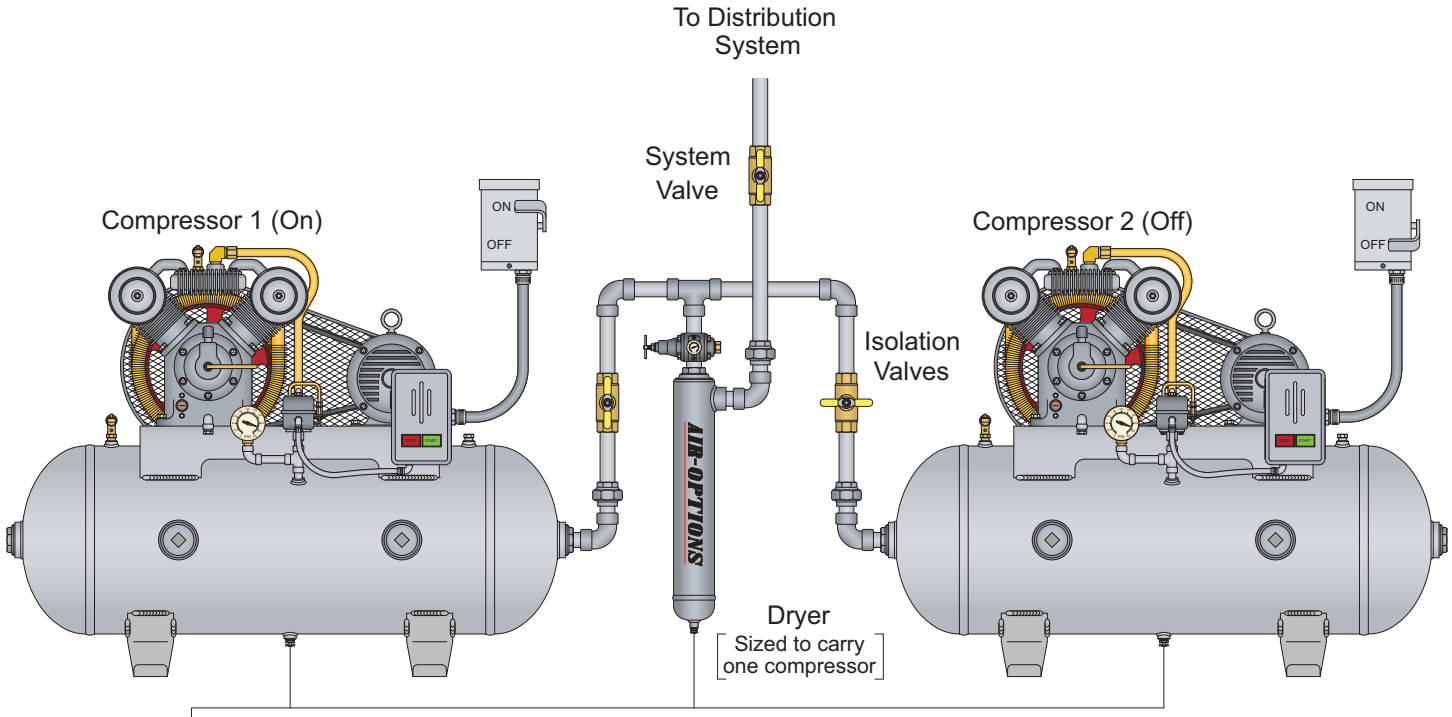
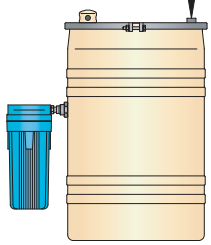
Technical Bulletin

Back-Up Air Compression Systems



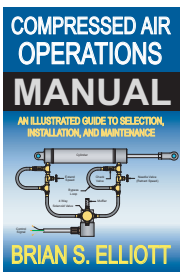


Oil/Water Separator

In most cases, reliable compressed air is critical for the operation of the facility. Loss of compressed air means the complete shut-down of the plant and the resulting frantic effort to try and restore this precious utility. A compression system that includes a back-up unit is strongly recommended for these types of applications. In these cases, a second and matching compressor is installed adjacent to the first. Both compressors are set up so that they can be completely isolated from the system. The illustration above shows a typical back-up air compression system. Notice that both compressors are serviced by a common dryer.

Typically, one compressor will be used for a week and the other for the following week. The weekly toggling of the compressors assure that neither unit receives undue wear and tear. Additionally, a system like this allows easy access for routine maintenance. The compressor that is off-line can be serviced at the discretion of the maintenance department without interrupting the plant's operation. It should be noted that a back-up compression system should not be confused with a peak demand system. For more information on peak demand systems, see our technical bulletin titled "Peak Demand Air Compression Systems".

Comprehensive information on compressed air systems is provided in the book **"Compressed Air Operations Manual"** by Brian S. Elliott, ISBN: 0-07-147526-5 Published by the McGraw-Hill Book Co.



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