

TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION

PRINCIPLES OF PNEUMATICS

PRESSURE:

The ratio between a force and the surface on which it acts.

$$P = \frac{F \text{ (N)}}{S \text{ (m}^2\text{)}} = Pa$$

ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE:

Equivalent to the pressure exerted on a surface at sea level at 20°C and with 65% humidity: 10.33 m H₂O; 760 mm Hg; 1.013 x 10⁵ Pa.

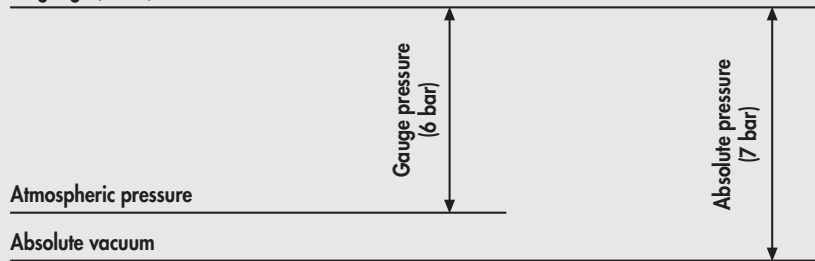
ABSOLUTE PRESSURE:

The pressure above the absolute zero value - pressure 0 = absolute vacuum.

GAUGE PRESSURE:

The pressure referring to ambient atmospheric pressure: it is normally indicated by the pressure gauges used in pneumatic circuits.

Pressure read
on gauge (6 bar)



$$\text{Gauge pressure} = (\text{absolute } P) - (\text{atmospheric } P)$$

UPSTREAM PRESSURE:

Pressure of the compressed air at the pneumatic component inlet.

DOWNSTREAM PRESSURE:

Pressure of the compressed air at the pneumatic component outlet.

ΔP PRESSURE DROP:

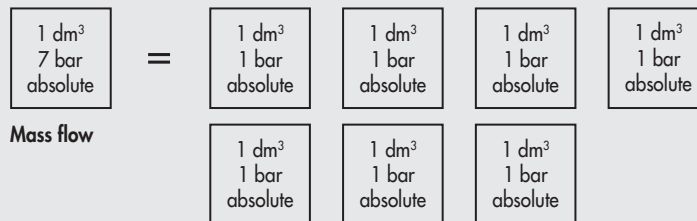
Difference between upstream and downstream pressure.

FLOW RATE:

The volume of air passing through a given section in a unit of time.

In pneumatics, the volume unit of measurement is NI (Normal litre).

In practice it represents the volumetric capacity of the air referring to ambient atmospheric pressure. E.g. in a conduit of a given section, there is a mass flow of 1 litre of air (1 dm³) at 7 bar absolute pressure. This value expressed as volume of air corresponds to 7 litres of air (7 dm³) at the ambient atmospheric pressure (1 bar).

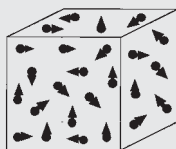


Volumetric flow rate (referring to absolute pressure)

- With the same pressure, the flow rate is directly proportional to the port cross section.
- With the same cross section, the pressure is directly proportional to the flow rate.
- Without a ΔP (difference between upstream and downstream pressure), there can be no flow rate.

PASCAL'S LAW:

A confined fluid transmits externally applied pressure uniformly in all directions.



Density of air, measured to 20°C to the atmospheric pressure: 1.275 $\frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3}$

CALCULATING THE FLOW RATE OF A VALVE USING FLOW COEFFICIENT k_v

Coefficient k_v gives approximate values when used for compressed air.
The flow rate Q_N at a normal volume through a valve is:

$$\text{Subsonic flow: } P_2 > \frac{P_1}{2}$$

$$\text{Supersonic flow: } P_2 < \frac{P_1}{2}$$

$$Q_N = 28,6 \cdot k_v \cdot \sqrt{P_2 \cdot \Delta P} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{293}{273 + t}}$$

$$Q_N^* = 14,3 \cdot k_v \cdot P_1 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{293}{273 + t}}$$

where

Q_N = flow rate at a normal volume [NI/min]

Q_N^* = critical flow rate at a normal volume [NI/min]

k_v = hydraulic coefficient in $\frac{l}{\text{min}} \left(\frac{\text{kg}}{\text{dm}^3 \cdot \text{bar}} \right)^{1/2}$

P_1 = absolute upstream pressure [bar]

P_2 = absolute downstream pressure [bar]

ΔP = difference in pressure $P_1 - P_2$ [bar]

t = input air temperature [$^{\circ}\text{C}$]

CALCULATING THE FLOW RATE OF A VALVE USING FLOW COEFFICIENTS C AND B

The flow rate Q_N at a normal volume through a valve is:

$$\text{Subsonic flow: } P_2 > b \cdot P_1$$

$$\text{Supersonic flow: } P_2 < b \cdot P_1$$

$$Q_N = C \cdot P_1 \cdot \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{r-b}{1-b} \right)^2} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{293}{273 + t}}$$

$$Q_N^* = C \cdot P_1 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{293}{273 + t}}$$

where

Q_N = flow rate at a normal volume [NI/min]

Q_N^* = critical flow rate at a normal volume [NI/min]

C = conductance in [NI/min · bar]

P_1 = absolute upstream pressure [bar]

P_2 = absolute downstream pressure [bar]

r = upstream pressure : downstream pressure ratio P_2 / P_1

b = critical pressure ratio $b = P_2^* / P_1$

t = input air temperature [$^{\circ}\text{C}$]

CALCULATING THE FLOW RATE OF A VALVE USING FLOW COEFFICIENTS C_v

The flow rate Q_N at a normal volume through a valve is:

$$\text{Subsonic flow: } P_2 > 0.528 \cdot P_1$$

$$\text{Supersonic flow: } P_2 < 0.528 \cdot P_1$$

$$Q_N = 400 \cdot C_v \cdot \sqrt{P_2 \Delta P} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{273}{273 + t}}$$

$$Q_N^* = 200 \cdot C_v \cdot P_1 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{273}{273 + t}}$$

where

Q_N = flow rate at a normal volume [NI/min]

Q_N^* = critical flow rate at a normal volume [NI/min]

C_v = coefficient of flow [US · GPM / p.s.i.]

P_1 = absolute upstream pressure [bar]

P_2 = absolute downstream pressure [bar]

t = input air temperature [$^{\circ}\text{C}$]

CALCULATING THE NOMINAL FLOW RATE

The nominal flow rate Q_{Nn} of a valve, i.e. the flow at normal volume passing through a valve with $(P_1 = 6 \text{ [bar]} (P_1 = 7 \text{ [bar]} \text{ absolute}))$ and $\Delta P = 1 \text{ [bar]}$, can be obtained from the previous formula as follows:

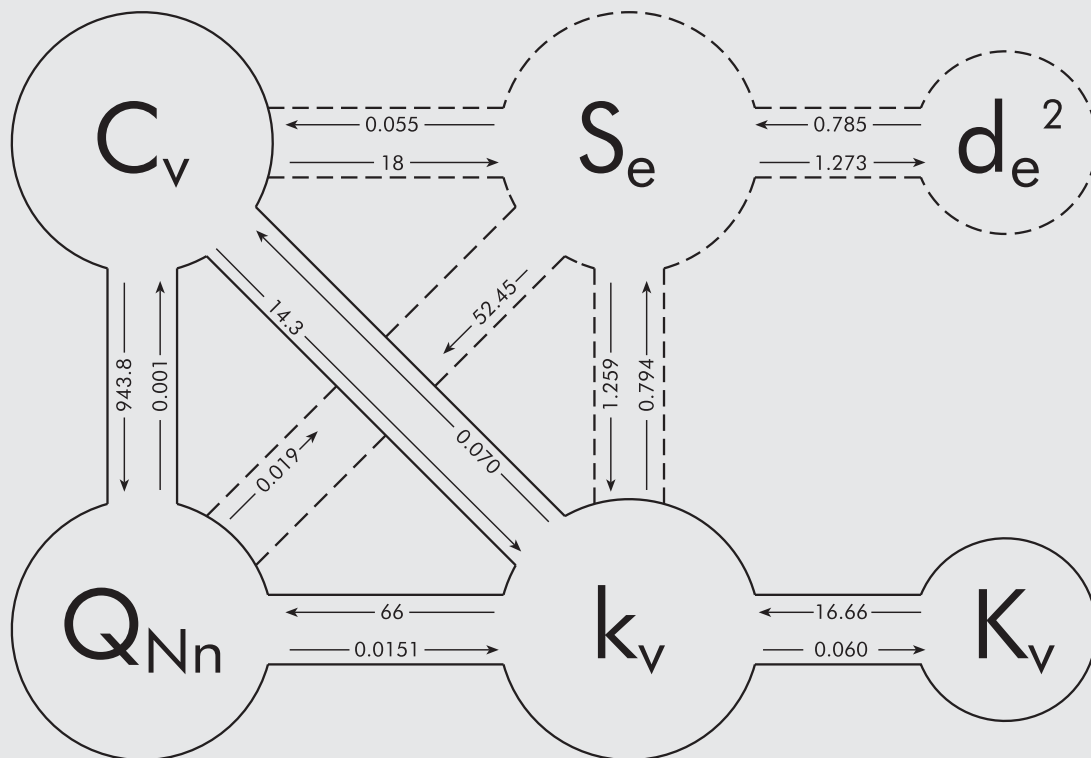
$$Q_{Nn} = 66 \cdot k_v$$

$$Q_{Nn} = 943.8 \cdot C_v$$

$$Q_{Nn} = 7 \cdot C \cdot \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{0,857 - b}{1 - b}\right)^2}$$

Equalising the first two formulae gives: $k_v = 14.3 \cdot C_v$

- REACTIONS BETWEEN $Q_{Nn} - C_v - k_v - K_v - S - d_e^2$



Q_{Nn} = flow rate in [Nl/min] with $p_1 = 6 \text{ [bar]} (P_1 = 7 \text{ [bar]} \text{ absolute})$ and $\Delta P = 1 \text{ [bar]}$

k_v hydraulic coefficient in $\frac{l}{\text{min}} \left(\frac{\text{kg}}{\text{dm}^3 \cdot \text{bar}} \right)^{1/2}$

K_v hydraulic coefficient in $\frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{h}} \left(\frac{\text{kg}}{\text{dm}^3 \cdot \text{bar}} \right)^{1/2}$

C_v coefficient of flow [US · GPM / p.s.i.]

S_e equivalent cross section [mm^2]

$d_e^2 = S \cdot \frac{4}{\pi}$ through diameter² in [mm^2] obtained from the equivalent cross section

CONVERSION TABLES

TABLE 1 - CONVERSION BETWEEN SYSTEMS OF MEASUREMENT

	Technical system and CGS system	→ Multiply by	International system	← Multiply by	British system
Length	m	1	m	0.0254	in (inch)
			m	0.3048	ft (foot)
Time	s	1	s	1	s
Area	m ²	1	m ²	0.000645	in ²
			m ²	0.0929	ft ²
Volume	m ³	1	m ³	16.39·10 ⁻⁴	in ³
			m ³	0.02832	ft ³
Speed	m·s ⁻¹	1	m·s ⁻¹	0.3048	ft·s ⁻¹
Acceleration	m·s ⁻²	1	m·s ⁻²	0.3048	ft·s ⁻²
Mass	kg·s ⁻² ·m ⁻¹	9.81	kg	0.4536	lb (pound)
			kg	14.594	slug = lb f ·s ² ·ft ⁻¹
Force	kg o kp	9.81	N	4.4483	lb f (pound)
	kg	0.981	da N = 10 N		
Torque	kg·m	9.81	N·m	1.356	lb f ·ft
Density	kg·s ⁻² ·m ⁻¹	9.81	kg·m ⁻³	16.02	lb·ft ⁻³
Specific weight	kg·m ⁻¹	9.81	N·m ⁻³	157.16	lb f ·ft ⁻³
Work, energy	kg·m	9.81	J	1.356	lb f ·ft
			KWh = 3.6·10 ⁶ J		
Heat	Cal	4186	J	1055.1	BTU
Power	kg·m·s ⁻¹	9.81	W	1.3558	lb f ·ft·s ⁻¹
	CV	735	W	745.7	HP
Pressure	kg·m ⁻²	9.81	Pa	6.8948·10	p.s.i.=lb f ·in ⁻²
	kg·cm ⁻²	9.81·10	Pa		
	kg·cm ⁻²	0.981	bar = 10 ⁵ Pa		
Mass flow	kg·s·m ⁻¹	9.81	kg·s ⁻¹	0.4536	lb·s ⁻²
Volume flow	m ³ ·s ⁻¹	1	m ³ ·s ⁻¹	0.02832	ft·s ⁻¹
	NI/min ⁻¹	0.0000167	Nm ³ · S ⁻¹	0.000472	scfm
Dynamic viscosity	kg·s·m ⁻²	9.81	Pa·s	6.896	lb f ·s·in ⁻²
	Po (poise-system CGS)	0.1	Pa·s		
Kinematic viscosity	m ² ·s ⁻²	1	m ² ·s ⁻²	0.0929	ft ² ·s ⁻¹
	St (stokes-system CGS)	10 ⁻⁴	m ² ·s ⁻²		
	Technical system and CGS system	← Divide by	International system	→ Divide by	British system

TABLE 2 - TEMPERATURE CONVERSION

$$^{\circ}\text{F} = [1.8 \cdot ^{\circ}\text{C}] + 32$$

$$^{\circ}\text{C} = [^{\circ}\text{F} - 32] \cdot 0.55$$

$$\text{K} = ^{\circ}\text{C} + 273$$

$$^{\circ}\text{C} = \text{degrees Celsius}$$

$$\text{K} = \text{degrees Kelvin}$$

$$^{\circ}\text{F} = \text{degrees Fahrenheit}$$

TABLE 3 - MULTIPLES AND SUB-MULTIPLES

Name	Symbol	Value
tera	T	10 ¹²
giga	G	10 ⁹
mega	M	10 ⁶
kilo	k	10 ³
etto	h	10 ²
deca	da	10
deci	d	10 ⁻¹
centi	c	10 ⁻²
milli	m	10 ⁻³
micro	μ	10 ⁻⁶
nano	n	10 ⁻⁹
pico	p	10 ⁻¹²

TABLE 4 - PRESSURE UNIT CONVERSION FACTORS

To obtain the pressure for the following units, multiply the number given for the source units by the coefficient shown.

Source units	Pa	kPa	MPa	bar	mbar	kp/cm ²	cm H ₂ O	mm H ₂ O	mm Hg	p.s.i.
Pa	1	10 ⁻³	10 ⁻⁵	10 ⁻⁵	10 ⁻²	10.1972·10 ⁻⁶	10.1972·10 ⁻³	101.972·10 ⁻³	7.50062·10 ⁻³	0.145038·10 ⁻³
kPa	10 ³	1	10 ⁻³	10 ⁻²	10	10.1972·10 ⁻³	10.1972	101.972	7.50062	0.145038
MPa	10 ⁶	10 ³	1	10	10 ⁴	10.1972	10.1972·10 ³	101.972·10 ³	7.50062·10 ³	0.145038·10 ³
bar	10 ⁵	10 ²	10 ⁻¹	1	10 ³	1.01972	1.01972·10 ³	10.1972·10 ³	750.062	14.5038
mbar	100	0.1	10 ⁻⁴	10 ⁻³	1	1.01972·10 ⁻³	1.01972	10.1972	0.750062	14.5038·10 ⁻³
kp/cm ²	98066.5	98.0665	98.0665·10 ⁻³	0.989665	980.665	1	1000	10.000	735.559	14.2233
cm H ₂ O	98.0665	98.0665·10 ⁻³	98.0665·10 ⁻⁶	0.98665·10 ⁻³	0.98665	10 ⁻³	1	10	0.735559	14.2233·10 ⁻³
mm H ₂ O	9.80665	9.80665·10 ⁻³	9.80665·10 ⁻⁶	9.80665·10 ⁻⁶	9.80665·10 ⁻³	10 ⁻⁴	0.1	1	73.5559·10 ⁻³	14.2233·10 ⁻³
mm Hg	133.322	133.322·10 ⁻³	133.322·10 ⁻³	1.33322·10 ⁻³	1.33322	1.35951·10 ⁻³	1.35951	13.5951	1	19.3368·10 ⁻³
p.s.i.	6894.76	6.89476	6.89476·10 ⁻³	68.9476·10 ⁻³	68.9476	70.307·10 ⁻³	70.307	703.07	51.7149	1

TABLE 5 - AIR CONSTANTS

Entity	Symbol	Value	
Dynamic viscosity	μ	$17.89 \cdot 10^{-6}$	Pa s
Kinematic viscosity	γ	$14.61 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$
Density	ρ	1.225	kg m^{-3}
Specific heat at constant pressure	C_p	1.004	$\text{kJ kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$
Speed of sound	a	340.29	m s^{-1}
Gas constant	R	287.1	$\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$

TABLE 6 - CONTENT OF WATER VAPOUR IN SATURATED COMPRESSED AIR

Grams of water vapour per cubic metre (g/m^3) of air at ambient atmospheric pressure 1.013 bar (0 bar gauge pressure), saturated and compressed at the given pressures and temperatures.

Temperature °C	Pressure - bar												
	0	0.4	0.63	1	1.6	2.5	4	6.3	8	10	12.5	16	20
0	4.82	3.45	2.97	2.42	1.87	1.39	0.97	0.67	0.54	0.44	0.36	0.29	0.23
5	6.88	4.93	4.24	3.46	2.68	1.99	1.39	0.95	0.77	0.63	0.52	0.41	0.33
10	9.41	6.74	5.80	4.73	3.66	2.72	1.90	1.30	1.06	0.87	0.70	0.56	0.45
15	12.7	9.08	7.83	6.39	4.94	3.67	2.56	1.76	1.43	1.17	0.95	0.76	0.61
20	17.4	12.5	10.7	8.75	6.77	5.02	3.51	2.41	1.95	1.60	1.30	1.04	0.84
25	23.6	16.9	14.6	11.9	9.18	6.82	4.77	3.27	2.65	2.17	1.77	1.40	1.14
30	30.5	21.8	18.8	15.3	11.9	8.81	6.16	4.22	3.43	2.81	2.29	1.81	1.47
35	39	27.9	24	19.6	15.2	11.3	7.87	5.40	4.38	3.59	2.92	2.32	1.88
40	49.6	35.5	30.6	24.9	19.3	14.3	10	6.87	5.57	4.55	3.72	2.95	2.39
45	63.5	45.45	39.2	31.9	24.7	18.3	12.8	8.79	7.13	5.84	4.76	3.77	3.06
50	81	58	49.9	40.7	31.5	23.4	16.4	11.2	9.10	7.45	6.07	4.82	3.90

TABLE 7 - VOLUME FLOW UNIT CONVERSION FACTORS

To obtain volume flow for the following units, multiply the number given for the source units by the coefficient shown.

Source units	m^3/s	l/s	cm^3/s	m^3/h	m^3/min	l/h	l/min	$\text{ft}^3/\text{min (scfm)}$	gallone/min UK	gallone/min USA
m^3/s	1	10^3	10^6	3600	60	$3.6 \cdot 10^3$	$60 \cdot 10^3$	$2.1188 \cdot 10^3$	$13.198 \cdot 10^3$	$15.850 \cdot 10^3$
l/s	10^{-3}	1	10^3	3.6	$60 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$3.6 \cdot 10^3$	60	2.1188	13.198	15.850
cm^3/s	10^{-6}	10^{-3}	1	$3600 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$60 \cdot 10^{-6}$	3.6	$60 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$2.1188 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$13.198 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$15.850 \cdot 10^{-3}$
m^3/h	$0.277778 \cdot 10^{-3}$	0.277778	$0.277778 \cdot 10^3$	1	$16.667 \cdot 10^{-3}$	10^3	16.667	0.58856	3.6661	4.4028
m^3/min	$16.667 \cdot 10^{-3}$	16.667	$16.667 \cdot 10^3$	60	1	$6 \cdot 10^4$	10^3	35.313	219.97	$264.17 \cdot 10^{-3}$
l/h	$0.27778 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$0.27778 \cdot 10^{-3}$	0.27778	10^{-3}	$16.667 \cdot 10^{-6}$	1	$16.667 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$0.58856 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$3.6661 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$4.4028 \cdot 10^{-3}$
l/min	$16.667 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$16.667 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$16.667 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$60 \cdot 10^{-3}$	10^{-3}	60^{-3}	1	$35.313 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$219.97 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$264.17 \cdot 10^{-3}$
ft^3/min	$0.47195 \cdot 10^{-3}$	0.47195	$0.47195 \cdot 10^3$	1.6990	$28.317 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.6990 \cdot 10^3$	28.317	1	6.2288	7.4804
UK gallon/min	$75.768 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$75.768 \cdot 10^{-3}$	75.768	0.27276	$4.5461 \cdot 10^{-3}$	272.76	4.5461	0.16054	1	1.2009
US gallon/min	$63.090 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$63.090 \cdot 10^{-3}$	63.090	0.22712	$3.7854 \cdot 10^{-3}$	227.12	3.7854	0.13368	0.83266	1

TABLE 8 - RECOMMENDED FLOW RATE

Maximum recommended flow rate in NI/min for pneumatic circuit piping. Flow rate values are calculated as follows:

- pipes $\varnothing 2$ to $\varnothing 12$ with a pressure drop equal to 0.3% of operating pressure per metre of pipe.
- pipes $\varnothing 15$ to $\varnothing 40$ with a pressure drop equal to 0.15% of the operating pressure per metre of pipe.

Pressure bar	Inside diameter in mm - Nominal diameter in gas inches										
	$\varnothing 2$	$\varnothing 4$	1/8" $\varnothing 6$	1/4" $\varnothing 8$	3/8" $\varnothing 10$	$\varnothing 12$	1/2" $\varnothing 15$	3/4" $\varnothing 20$	1" $\varnothing 25$	1 1/4" $\varnothing 32$	1 1/2" $\varnothing 40$
2	3.5	19	53	110	190	300	370	750	1350	2500	4300
4	6.2	35	97	200	350	550	700	1400	2400	4500	7800
6	9	50	140	290	500	800	1000	2000	3500	6500	11500
8	11.8	66	185	380	660	1050	1300	2600	4500	8500	15000
10	14.5	82	230	470	820	1300	1600	3250	5700	10500	18500

TABLE 9 - INDICATIVE AIR CONSUMPTION FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF EQUIPMENT

Type of equipment	Consumption at full load NI/min.	Type of equipment	Consumption at full load NI/min.
6 mm Ø drill	300	Bench tamper	350
12 mm Ø drill	500	8 kg tamper	700
20 mm Ø drill	1150	10 mm Ø riveting machine	450
45 mm Ø drill	1650	20 mm Ø riveting machine	1000
M6 screwdriver or bolt screwer	300	4 kg chisel	380
M10 screwdriver or bolt screwer	400	6 kg chisel	500
M16 impulse screwer	1150	Small paint-spray gun	160
M25 impulse screwer	1650	Industrial paint-spray gun	500
1" Ø wheel grinder	350	1 mm Ø cleaning bellows	65
6" Ø disk grinder	1500	2 mm Ø cleaning bellows	250
9" Ø disk grinder	2100	5 mm Ø nozzle sandblasting machine	1600
Polishing machine	1200	8 mm Ø nozzle sandblasting machine	4200
1000 kg hoist	2150	Plaster sprayer	500
Spot welder	300	Heavy-duty concrete vibrator	2500
		35 kg concrete breaker	1650
		18 kg breaker	1850
		30 kg breaker	2850

DEGREE OF PROTECTION

NORMA EN 60529 E CEI 529

IP 6 5

DEGREE
OF PROTECTION
AGAINST
THE PENETRATION
OF LIQUIDS

DEGREE OF PROTECTION AGAINST
THE PENETRATION OF FOREIGN
BODIES COMING INTO CONTACT
WITH LIVE PARTS.

1 st No.	DESCRIPTION	2 nd No.	DESCRIPTION
0	Not protected	0	Not protected
1	Protected against solid bodies greater than Ø 50 mm	1	Protected against water falling vertically (condensate)
2	Protected against solid bodies greater than Ø 12 mm	2	Protected against drops of water falling up to 15° off the vertical
3	Protected against solid bodies greater than Ø 2.5 mm	3	Protected against rain water up to 60° off the vertical
4	Protected against solid bodies greater than Ø 1 mm	4	Protected against sprays of water from any direction.
5	Protected against dust	5	Protected against jets of water fired from any direction
6	Totally protected against dust	6	Protected against sea waves or the like
		7	Protected against the effects of immersion

CHECK COMPATIBILITY

Pneumatic products include elastomer gaskets that are made of acryl-nitrile butadiene (NBR), polyurethane or fluorocarbon rubber (FKM/FPM).

It is important for them not to come into contact with incompatible substances, which could cause them to swell or crack and subsequently malfunction.

In particular, it is necessary to check compatibility of:

- the oil used in the air compressor
- any oil used in the lubricator
- the oil or cutting fluids used on the machine, which could get into the cylinders and from there the valves.

We have drawn up a compatibility table containing a list of chemicals and elastomers, and also Hostaform®, the technopolymer most commonly used in our products. Please refer to the English webpage www.metalwork.it/eng/materiali_compatibilita.html or the Italian webpage www.metalwork.it/ita/materiali_compatibilita.html.

The website <http://divapps.parker.com/divapps/seal/mobile/FluidCompatibility/Desktop/> of Parker Pradifa, one of our gasket suppliers, contains an interactive table defining incompatibility.

Below are some the oils that are definitely compatible with all the elastomers used with our products:

- UNI and ISO FD 22 lubricants (Energol HPL, Spinesso, Mobil DTE, Tellus Oil).
- low pressure compressor oil: SHELL CORENA OIL D 46
- high pressure compressor oil: SHELL RIMULA X OIL 40.

Please note that some ester-based synthetic oils used in compressors are extremely incompatible with NBR and polyurethane. ROTOROIL 8000 F2 is one of them.

Metal Work can provide you with further information or carry out research and tests if required.

AIR PURITY CLASS

The ISO 8573-1 standard establishes the level of air quality in terms of solid particles, humidity and oil concentration.

Example:

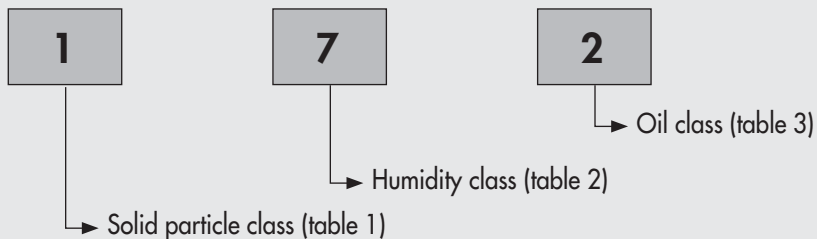


TABLE 1 - SOLID PARTICLE CLASSES

Class	Maximum number of particles for m ³ Particle size, d [µm]		
	0.1 < d ≤ 0.5	0.5 < d ≤ 1.0	1.0 < d ≤ 5.0
0	As specified by the equipment user or supplier and more stringent than class 1		
1	≤ 20000	≤ 400	≤ 10
2	≤ 400000	≤ 6000	≤ 100
3	Not specified	≤ 90000	≤ 1000
4	Not specified	Not specified	≤ 10000
5	Not specified	Not specified	≤ 100000
Class	Concentration, C _p [mg/m ³]		
6	0 < C _p ≤ 5		
7	5 < C _p ≤ 10		
X	C _p > 10		

TABLE 2 – HUMIDITY CLASSES

Class	Pressure dewpoint [°C]
0	As specified by the equipment user or supplier and more stringent than class 1
1	≤ -70
2	≤ -40
3	≤ -20
4	≤ +3
5	≤ +7
6	≤ +10
Class	Concentration of liquid water, C _w [g/m ³]
7	C _w ≤ 0.5
8	0.5 < C _w ≤ 5
9	5 < C _w ≤ 10
X	C _w > 10

TABLE 3 – OIL CLASSES

Class	Oil concentration (aerosol, liquid, vapour) [mg/m ³]
0	As specified by the equipment user or supplier and more stringent than class 1
1	≤ 0.01
2	≤ 0.1
3	≤ 1
4	≤ 5
X	> 5