

Compressed air technologies eligible for ECA**Enhanced Capital Allowances Scheme & Energy Technology List**

Equipment that qualifies for Enhanced Capital Allowance (ECA) is listed on Carbon Trust's Energy Technology List (ETL). This is not an exhaustive list of energy saving measures - being component rather than system based, it is only the starting point to reducing the energy consumption of your compressed air system. For an overview of energy saving opportunities in compressed air refer to Carbon Trust's GPG385 Energy efficient compressed air systems.

Ultrasonic Leak Detectors

Leaks are the single largest source of avoidable waste in a compressed air system. Hand held ultrasonic leak detectors locate leaks by an electronic process that translates the ultrasonic signal from the leak into the audible range. Ultrasonic leak detectors that qualify must have a sensor operating in the region of 40kHz, and be capable of detecting a leak at 7 barg pressure at a distance of 20 metres.

Refrigerated Air Dryer with Energy Saving Controls

The refrigerated air dryer must have a control system consisting of a feedback loop which adjusts or stops the flow of the refrigerant gas before it enters the refrigeration compressor, allowing the dryer to be controlled according to the heat load between 0% and 100% of full load power. At the moment only the control component is eligible for ECA.

Control Systems for desiccant dryers

Energy savings are delivered by intelligent control devices which sense the moisture content of either the compressed air or the desiccant bed, so that the dryer regenerates the desiccant material only when required. Products that use timers or temperature controls are not eligible.

Electric motors

A motor up to 90kW which complies with the CEMEP EFF1 efficiency ratings, is eligible. All 2 and 4 pole motors between 110 - 400kW, and 6 and 8 pole motors between 5.5-315kW must meet the Water Industry Motor Efficiency Standards (WIMES) for 6 pole motors.

Variable speed output devices

This is a generic technology to vary output of a motor driven system and hence is applicable to pumps, fans and air compressors. Note that only the variable output device component itself qualifies for ECA, NOT the compressor as a whole unit. Unlike other control systems the variable output device energy saving capability is not guaranteed and should only be fitted when the demand is truly varying.

Electronic Condensate Drain Traps

These were removed from the ETL in September 2006 because Carbon Trust deemed them to be an energy saving technology now sufficiently widely accepted by industry, and thus no longer in need of ECA scheme support.

More information

For up to date information on eligibility and products, go to: www.eca.org.uk

For more general energy saving information go to: www.bcas.org.uk/energysavings.asp