



The Benefits of Change

Change is often difficult, whether in life or in business, but my years of experience in the compressor oil market have shown me the benefit of evolving. As new products are developed, new opportunities arise for improved results. In this case, the time has come to change from Polyglycol based air compressor fluids, such as Sullube-32, to a Polyolester.

Polyglycol lubricants have been around for many years. They have gained a significant following in the compressor world due to their increased lubricity, high viscosity index, and ability to resist oxidation and deposit formation. The deposits I am talking about are the dreaded varnish and sludge. These by-products of oxidation wreak havoc on a compressor system. They further increase oxidation of the oil, decrease oil flow to critical components and coat filters and separators, starving the compressor of oil. When Polyglycol oils were introduced, they helped to eliminate these problems. There is, however, a limitation to these fluids. The drawback of using Polyglycol lubricants is their incompatibility with hydrocarbon oils and the inability to utilize the Polyglycols for extended hours at or above 200°F.

The next evolution in the compressor oil market is Polyolester. What if I told you there was a product available that not only provided superior lubrication in air compressors, but also eliminated the creation of oxidative by-products such as varnish and sludge? I can hear your answer now, "We already have that in Polyglycols." Well, what if I also told you that not only does it solve those issues, but the Polyolester is compatible with existing O.E.M. lubricants? The exception would be Silicone. Another great benefit is the ability to operate the compressors at really high temperatures without oxidizing the oil rapidly. The Polyolester will continue to provide long fluid life at temperatures above 200°F, which is common in many compressor applications. So, not only do you get a lubricant that will not promote deposit formation, but you also get a fluid that is compatible with other base oils. No more need to flush between certain products, no need to worry about an incompatible fluid being used for top off. The product I am talking about is the Summit Ultima series. The Ultima series provides long fluid life, 12,000 hours versus the typical synthetic at 8,000 hours. Long oil hours, no deposit formation, compatibility with O.E.M. fluids, solvency – in this case, change can be a great thing.

The next time you need to make a lubricant change or recommendation, think about trying Ultima. It's a smart idea that makes sense.

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