




Fire Protection Air Compressor Comparison

All General Air Products fire protection air compressors are designed to maximize air delivery to a dry pipe sprinkler system so as to meet the required 30 minutes fill time with the smallest possible horsepower motor while at the same time consistently delivering a durable and reliable product that can be counted on to last the life of the system and beyond.

Air Compressor Properties: What defines a Fire Protection Air Compressor?	 	Other Oil Less Fire Protection Compressors	Retail Compressors
Designed for use in:	Exclusively for use in all types of dry pipe fire sprinkler systems	A variety of industrial markets that also includes fire protection	 Spray painting, sanding, grinding, roatating tires, inflating tires, installing trim, cleaning
Will meet NFPA 13 requirements and demands of Dry Pipe Sprinkler Systems out of the box. (30 min fill up time at 40 psi and 60 second water delivery time.)	Yes	Yes	No
UL 1450 Listed for Fire Protection.	Yes	Some*	No
Warranted for commercial/industrial use?	Yes	Yes	No**
Lifetime Technical Support from experts in Compressors and Dry Sprinkler Systems	Yes	Limited	No
Pressure switch pre-set to standard dry system settings. (Standard: 27-40 PSIG, Low: 13-18 PSIG, High: 80-100 PSIG)	Yes	Yes	No
Includes parts necessary for best installation in fire sprinkler systems. (Including riser mounting bracket and 30" stainless steel flex hose)	Yes	No	No

*At time of publishing only one other company has a UL listing for oil less fire protection air compressors.

**A retail compressor's warranty is often void if the product is "ever used while providing commercial services."



Case Study: McCormick Place Convention Center

Why Should I Use a General Air Products air compressor on a dry sprinkler system?

McCormick Place Convention Center, recently home to the 2013 NFPA Expo, is the largest convention center in North America. It consists of four interconnected buildings near the shore of Lake Michigan, south of downtown Chicago. McCormick Place boasts a total of 2.6 million square feet of exhibit space, over 600,000 square feet of meeting rooms, a 4,000 seat theater and over 6,000 parking spaces.

Another noteworthy feature about McCormick Place is the more than 80 dry pipe sprinkler systems – EVERY one governed by a General Air Products, Inc. air compressor.

We are proud of the fact that our fire protection air compressors are used at such a vital and prestigious facility. When we were given a tour of the facility we found that we had even more to be proud of...

In the picture of the air compressor below you may notice that the logo looks a little dated, and the paint appears a little worn. You might wonder why we wouldn't use a new picture taken by a professional photographer for a piece promoting our air compressors.



We used the pictures of the actual units at McCormick Place instead of our newest models, because we want you to know about the field-proven level of quality for our compressors.

You see, the tank mounted, lubricated air compressors at McCormick Place were bought and installed in the South Building in 1994. They have been properly maintained by the top-notch operations staff and running problem free for nearly 20 years!

Given the condition they are in we would expect that they will last for many more years. We are also happy to say that this is not uncommon for our air compressors – with proper installation and a solid maintenance schedule this is the performance we expect from every unit we put into the field.

One final thing worth noting, at the time that the order was placed for these 80 air compressors a separate order was placed for two extra units. *The extra units were to be used as replacement parts for major components and they have been sitting in the facility storage area, in their original boxes, untouched in nearly 20 years.*

When people ask what the difference is between a General Air Products' fire protection air compressor and "any old compressor" we talk about the customized motor, and the lifetime support, and the industrial duty components. The highest level of fire protection air compressor expertise offered by any company anywhere. We talk about the reliability of our units, their durability in the field and more than 50 years of preeminence in the fire sprinkler industry. Then, when all of these points are added together you are talking about an unmatched level of quality, McCormick Place is just one example.