

BEST PRACTICES WHEN OPERATING A PORTABLE DIESEL AIR COMPRESSOR

By Nav Sharma



If you notice your compressor is experiencing an issue such as low (or no) voltage; the compressor is running a high operating temperature; the engine has a high operating temperature; you're seeing poor air delivery; or the compressor won't start altogether, perform a detailed visual inspection to prevent additional damage or abnormal operation. It's always best to consult your user manual, but also perform a machine walkaround and check for some common culprits. These include loose wires or connections; damaged piping; heat damage to parts, which can appear as discolorations or the presence of a burnt odor; low fluids; low (or no) fuel; or loose or broken belts.

Other simple practices can also avoid unnecessary damage to your machine. Just as you would never pull the emergency brake in your car haphazardly, there are several best practices to follow when using portable air

compressors. To best maximize uptime and extend your equipment's lifespan, adhere to the following tips:

- Do not use the emergency stop button to stop the machine, except in true emergencies where immediate shutdown is required
- Follow proper startup procedures
- Follow proper shutdown procedures, including closing the service valves and running the compressor for approximately five minutes to allow the machine to cool down. Then toggle the engine switch to off.
- During the winter, ensure the compressor control air lines are free of any condensate to avoid freezing while storing the machine during cooler months

When you take proper care of your equipment, it'll take care of you.