METROPOLITAN NY CHAPTER Refrigeration Service Engineers Society

Continuing Education for the HVAC/R Industry "Better Service Through Knowledge"



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Compressor Model Numbers

Understanding a manufacturer's nomenclature to identify their compressors can be a very useful tool for a service technician. There is much information about a compressor that can be obtained from decoding its model number. This can be a valuable aid for a technician when trying to select a compressor for replacement if the original compressor is not readily available or no longer in production. This information can also be very helpful while troubleshooting a compressor.

Every compressor manufacturer has it own nomenclature for its series of compressors. The information contained in the model number will vary from manufacturer to manufacturer, so a technician will need to obtain the coding used for each of the different compressors he services. This is not a difficult task; the information is usually readily available from the manufacturer in their service publications.

Some of the information obtained from the nomenclature of a compressor's model number include the physical characteristics of the compressor series, such as its footprint and body dimensions and layout of its stub or service valve connections. On a replacement compressor when the original compressor is not available, this can allow a technician to determine if the replacement will fit into the space available. Some model numbers will also include the type of refrigerant originally designed for the compressor.

Many times the application range of the compressor can be determined—if the compressor is designed for a high, medium or low temperature application.

The BTU capacity is normally included in the nomenclature of the compressor model number. Sometimes instead of the BTU capacity, the model number will state the compressor's motor horsepower or its displacement.

Some models will state the type of oil originally included with the compressor.

Sometimes the compressor motor type is stated in the model number. It will state if the compressor incorporates a PSC, capacitor start, or another motor design. This can help a technician identify which types of starting components are used on the compressor.

Many model numbers also include the type of compressor motor protection. This helps a technician determine if there is an internal overload device, which could be open and be the cause of infinite resistance reading when measuring the resistance values of a compressor.

More than likely the voltage rating of the compressor will be stated. Again, this can be useful when troubleshooting a



compressor and trying to determine if the correct voltage is being applied.

Some model numbers will state if the compressor is new or a service replacement.

The serial numbers of some compressors also include some valuable information. Knowing the nomenclature of a compressor's serial number many times will allow a technician to identify the date the compressor was manufactured. This can be handy when determining the warranty status of a compressor.

WORK SMART

WORK SAFE

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The cost of preparing, printing and mailing our meeting notice has dramatically increased. Therefore, your Board of Directors has decided to transition from the current paper copy to an email newsletter. This transition will occur over the next few months

We only ask that you do one thing (there is no charge). Please go to <u>www.RSES.ORG</u> and login. If you have not established a log-in with RSES you will have to do so at this time. After you log-in check that your email address is correct. We will be using the RSES database of chapter members for our email list.

Using email will help the chapter reduce its' expenses and maintain the chapter dues at the current level. It will also permit us to make sure meeting notices are received at the proper time and to better publicize our seminars.

Please update you RSES information NOW so that you may insure that your newsletters arrive every month.

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