

Delivering Excellence In Dry Ice

CONTINENTAL



CARBONIC

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products, inc.

# Main Requirements for Air Supply

In order to assure your dry ice blasting goes smoothly and fully meets with your expectations, we ask that your maintenance department be able to meet the following requirements:

## **COMPRESSED AIR**

The four factors involved in qualifying a plant's compressed air system are pressure, flow, dryness, and interface factors.

## **PRESSURE**

The line pressure should be at least 80 psig. 90 psig or more is desirable for most applications.

## **FLOW**

The flow required is 100 - 250 scfm at 80 psig minimum. An important item is the line size we are hooking up to. We should have a **line size of 3/4" or more**. The **minimum dedicated** compressor size, given sufficient pressure as referenced above, is a **25 HP or 185 CFM diesel compressor**. It is important the flow requirement is met, so other work requiring compressed air is not scheduled in excess of supply. The higher the blast pressure required, the more CFM you will need.

## **DRYNESS**

The dryer the air the more trouble free the operation will be. Dryness is often specified by dew point temperature (the lower the better), but for practical purposes, if there is drying equipment in line the air should be of decent quality. That being said, some of the worst air systems can be used, but there will be a limit on the length of time one can run trouble free. **After cooler dryers are available for rent or purchase if needed.**

## **INTERFACE**

For hookup, the line size should be 3/4" to 1", terminating in a 1" NPT male nipple with a shut off valve near the hook up point. If using an IceTech machine a 1" claw coupling is needed. If the distance from your air connection exceeds 100 feet, please let us know, so that 1-1/2" air hose or larger can be considered to reduce pressure loss. All electric assist blasting systems require 120v AC + 10% or -15% to operate properly. It is the customer responsibility to ensure proper voltage into the system and to ensure all systems, the items being blasted and the power source are properly grounded at all times. **A standard grounded 3 prong electrical outlet on a 15 amp minimum breaker within 50 feet to clean is also needed, unless you are using an all pneumatic machine.** Generators are discouraged and we need notification if you intend to use one, so we may give you guidance.

## **OTHER IMPORTANT ISSUES**

### **NOISE**

Noise levels up to 120 Dba will be produced and hearing protection will be required for personnel within 150 feet of the operating dry ice blasting equipment.

### **CARBON DIOXIDE LEVEL**

CO<sub>2</sub> is heavier than air, therefore, caution and increased ventilation are necessary for low elevations (pits). Confined spaces or small areas need to be addressed in terms of enhancing the ventilation or providing breathing air to the operator. An area of less than 30,000 cubic feet should at least have enhanced forced ventilation.

### **EFFLUENT SCATTER**

This is just a reminder while dry ice disappears, the "dirt" does not. It is important to note who is responsible for any final clean up, and to prepare, when necessary for viscous or dusty applications by draping plastic, canvas, or other measures.