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99,999% pure nitrogen onsite and 50% reduction in running costs with Atlas Copco NGP+ Nitrogen Generators

“Onsite industrial gas (nitrogen and oxygen) generation offers a much more sustainable and cost-efficient solution compared to cylinder or bulk liquid supply which require transport, handling, storage and administration,” notes Wayne Jacobs, Business Line Manager of Atlas Copco Compressor Technique’s Industrial Air division. The advanced Atlas Copco NGP+ Nitrogen Generators have been designed to supply nitrogen onsite at up to 99,999% purity and deliver a potential 50% reduction in running costs.

Nitrogen often is an essential requirement in many applications. Many industries in for example, chemical manufacturing, food and beverage processing and packaging, electronics, pharmaceuticals, and laser cutting, are dependent on nitrogen as an integral part of their production processes.

Atlas Copco draws on many years of experience and continuous technical innovation to offer tailor-made superior quality on-site nitrogen generators designed to optimise production processes at the lowest possible operating costs. Atlas Copco recently extended its NGP+ nitrogen generator range which now includes nine energy-efficient, high capacity models. These NGP+ generators have been designed from the outset to protect the process application and the users’ equipment investment.

According to Jacobs, this range offers onsite nitrogen at flows ranging from 5.2 l/s (19 Nm³/h) to 797 l/s (2870 Nm³/h). *“Operating with PSA (Pressure Swing Adsorption) technology, these plug-and-play NGP+ Nitrogen Generators can simply be plugged into existing clean, dry compressed air installation to offer an independent, reliable, secure, flexible and cost-effective supply of nitrogen. Overall, the augmented family of NGP+ nitrogen generators offer up to 50% reduction in running costs compared to other nitrogen supply methods.*

Core to the NGP+ is the Carbon Molecular Sieve; small oxygen molecules penetrate the pores while large nitrogen molecules by-pass the carbon molecular sieve.

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The NGP+ generators are equipped with an automatic “off-spec” purity control check that prevents nitrogen with a purity level less than the fixed threshold from reaching a sensitive application. Additionally, fail-safe sensors continuously monitor feed air conditions such as temperature, pressure and pressure dewpoint. *‘If the feed air does not match the generators specifications, it is automatically blown off prior to entering the machine to eradicate the risk of contamination and component damage,’* explains Jacobs. In addition, in some sectors like rubber, metal production and general industry, customers are able to refine the actual purity level required for any given application while benefitting from optimum economic operation.

The future-proof design of the NGP+ generators, which includes the integration of SMARTLINK, aligns these units with Industry 4.0 applications. This data monitoring program, collects, compares and analyses data in real-time to deliver an intelligent assessment of generator system performance. Through machine monitoring and assessment customers are able to achieve increased reliability, reduced downtime and identify energy optimisation opportunities.

Atlas Copco Compressor Technique prides itself on providing a complete air solution which goes far beyond the supply of the product. *“Regular service and maintenance by skilled technicians using the right tools and genuine parts are fundamental to ensuring optimum, reliable and efficient performance of any equipment,”* says Jacobs. *“We take care of our customers’ requirements around the country by offering turnkey service solutions across our complete product portfolio which includes industrial oil-free and oil-injected compressors, gas and process compressors and expanders, air and gas treatment equipment and air management systems.”*

These new NGP+ generators complement Atlas Copco’s existing range of onsite gas solutions, including both nitrogen and oxygen generators, available in membrane and PSA technologies.

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Atlas Copco Group Great ideas accelerate innovation. At Atlas Copco we have been turning industrial ideas into business-critical benefits since 1873. By listening to our customers and knowing their needs, we deliver value and innovate with the future in mind.

Atlas Copco is based in Stockholm, Sweden with customers in more than 180 countries and about 37 000 employees.

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For more information: www.atlascopcogroup.com

Industrial Air is a division within Atlas Copco's Compressor Technique business area. It develops, manufactures and markets oil-injected and oil-free air compressors, on-site nitrogen and oxygen generators, air treatment solutions and compressor controls and monitoring under several brands. In addition to serving a wide variety of industries, dedicated solutions are also available for marine, railway and oil and gas customers. The division's focus and main drive is to further improve its customers' productivity. The divisional headquarters and main production center are located in Antwerp, Belgium.

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