

ELGI compressors for new-generation battle ships

Elgi has won a major contract for the delivery of high pressure compressors non-magnetic compressors type WP4330-300 to the Indian Navy for installation in Mine Counter Measure Vessels (MCMV).



WP4330-300 High Pressure Compressor

The task of keeping ports and coastal shipping lanes free from the threat of mines is an essential part of successful maritime operations. For that the Indian Navy has a fleet of 12 MCMV. This fleet was earlier equipped with Russian water-cooled compressors.

Modern mines can be easily triggered by the magnetic signature of the ship's hull, which means modern mine countermeasures vessels used for mine hunting operations before the main mission warship sails through have to be very sophisticated. These mine counter vessels have to be equipped with lower magnetic compressors.

In co-operation with J.P. Sauer & Sohn of Germany, Elgi has succeeded in replacing Russian compressors fitted onboard the MCMV with its non-magnetic compressors. These air-cooled compressors in non-magnetic construction will replace the existing water cooled technology with complicated mixed cooling system.

Important criteria for the selection of Elgi compressor has been the technical superiority with unmatched advantages as well as the excellent operational results of WP4330-300 compressor in the hot and humid marine environment. A surface feet type approval validation test was successfully completed during 2006 on board the MCMV fleet with excellent reports from the crew. This New Year contract provides a total order value of USD 150000. Elgi has supplied 8 numbers of compressors and back up spares with part indigenization.

The WP4330-300 which was developed for use onboard modern surface combat ships provides from 4-stages a capacity of 31 m³/hr at a final pressure of 200 bar. This air-cooled compressor, providing excellent reliability and simple maintenance, has enabled the Indian Navy to access advance technology for applications in submarines, large frigates, naval combat ships, aircraft carriers among other naval fleet.

Elgi has a long standing relationship with the Indian Defence forces for the last 2 decades, since its first supply of Navy compressors for Corvettes & Frigates. Over 70 compressors are running successfully in several ships under Delhi Class, Godavari, Bramhaputra, Veer class & Leander class. Very recently, Elgi has also secured major orders from the ship building yards like Bharati Shipyard, Mazagon Dock and Larson & Toubro. Continuous development of higher flow rate, integral membrane drying system and low magnetic signature compressors have ensured that Elgi remains at the forefront providing compressed air solutions for naval application.