

REQUEST FOR COMPRESSED AIR LEAK SURVEY

To apply, email your application to custom@efficiencymaine.com. For questions about the process, applicants may speak with a member of the program team by email or phone at **866-376-2463**.

Introduction

Compressed air consumes a significant amount of energy and is crucial for production at most industrial and manufacturing facilities. Compressed air systems are also prone to leaks, which translate directly into excess energy costs. Additionally, most systems are not well metered. Knowing your compressed air usage is critical for tracking overall system leakage and for making informed capital decisions when compressors fail.

Efficiency Maine's Commercial and Industrial (C&I) Custom Program provides funding for compressed air leak surveys and leak repairs. The program is designed to reduce compressed air losses and support capital planning for larger compressed air investments through installation of permanent compressed air flow metering equipment.

\$200,000 is being initially allocated to this program for the 2026 fiscal year (July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026).

Incentives

The incentive is equal to 50% of survey, leak repair, and airflow metering equipment costs, with incentives capped at \$40,000. Repairs must be completed within six months of the survey.

Requirements

1. Pre-approval required prior to survey.
2. Facility must be served by a Maine electric utility.
3. Must be more than 12 months since a compressed air leak survey was conducted.
4. System requirements:
 - Compressed air system must operate at least 2,000 hours per year
 - Total horsepower (HP) of compressors must be greater than 50 HP
 - Modulating compressors must have controls converted to load/no load
 - All non-variable-speed drive compressors must be equipped for auto dual control timed stop auto restart controls
 - System must have at least five gallons of storage per CFM if load/no load
5. Permanent compressed airflow metering equipment must be installed at the main distribution header with the ability to trend and export airflow data.
6. The compressed air survey must be conducted by a professional who has demonstrated experience with identifying compressed air system leaks.
7. Efficiency Maine reserves the right to reject any proposal that does not advance the goals of the C&I Custom Program.

Application Requirements

The application must include:

- a completed compressed air leak survey application form, and
- a proposal for the compressed air leak survey from a vendor with demonstrated expertise.

Application Process

The incentive will be paid after the following actions have been completed:

1. Pre-approval for the survey has been issued.
2. Compressed air leak survey has been completed.
3. An audit report submitted with documentation of fixed leaks, including:
 - A description of leak location,
 - CFM has been measured,
 - the steps taken to repair the leaks, and
 - a photograph of the leak location.
4. Permanent airflow metering has been installed at the main distribution header. Intended metering equipment must be clearly specified in the survey proposal.
5. At least one week of one-minute interval flow data before and after leak repairs has been submitted.
6. Records of the payments submitted for the survey, leak repairs, and metering equipment.

Once completed, the incentive check, based on 50% of the total costs and capped at \$40,000, will be mailed.

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