

## StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> Compressor Valves





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All valve performance statements are based on documented case studies.

## Engineering extraordinary

#### + Increase

Production, Reliability, Run time, Revenue, ROI

+ Lower Costs of Maintenance, Inventory, Fuel, Power Consumption

#### + Reduce

Flaring, Noise, Vibrations, Environmental Impact



### Meet the StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> valve

The StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> Valve is a drop-in replacement valve for industrial reciprocating compressors for speeds from 200 to 3600+ rpm, pressure differential across a valve to 4,350 psi (300 bar), service temperatures from -40° to 500°F (-40° to 260°C), and for all gases including sweet and sour natural gas, acid gas, CO2, hydrogen, nitrogen, CNG, LNG, ethylene, air, ammonia, HCl, helium, etc.

This revolutionary technology is patented around the world and offers significant improvements over conventional valves.

The main benefit is an increase in Mean Time Between Failure on all of the compressors. We used to average 0.5 to 2 years, now we're confident we'll be able to get 5+ years or more. Our longest current run time is 3.5 years, and the valves still look great.

-StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> Valves Customer

#### Potential life cycle savings



Up to 15% throughput improvement

Reduces power consumption as much as 15%



Reduces inventory costs by as much as 80%



Increases incremental revenue by hundreds of thousands to millions of dollars



Reduces service costs, all but eliminates unscheduled compressor downtime

Reduces number of emission events and fugitive emissions intensity

### Typical improvement

**5X to 25X** Mean Time Between Failure



### Superior performance Minimize failures Easiest service

Whether you're doing equipment service callouts yourself or managing those who do, StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> valves make your life a lot easier. Compared to conventional options, our revolutionary StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> valves for reciprocating compressors perform substantially better by reducing operating costs and improving production by significantly increasing runtime between service while reducing power consumption and/or increasing throughput.

## Unmatched reliability

**10 - year** Limited warranty on valve housing

Unlike our competitors, we don't profit when our products fail–so instead of short run times, our valves can operate for years in the field. More tolerant of liquid and debris, they turn problem compressors into producers. And they're so dependable, we back them with one of the best warranties in the business.

## Serviced on site in minutes

While many conventional valves must be swapped and sent out for machining, StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> valves can be refurbished on site without any machining, special tools or skilled labor. They're as easy to service offshore as on dry land. And you can reduce inventory by more than 80% because you only need to stock a small number of interchangeable modules – not scores of spare valve assemblies and unique repair kits.



StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> valves generate both compelling investment returns and social and environmental impacts for our customers

Responsible investment is increasingly central to financial strategies. When a fund manager's research turns up a positive ESG profile, that business is better positioned to win investments, and its share price will rise.



### How it works

Our modular design features interchangeable modules held stationary between the valve seat and carrier. The StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> modules are configured to optimize material, reed lift, and stiffness to cover all reciprocating compressor

applications and provide the best performance and reliability.

> StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> Modules



#### StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> Dynamic Valve Sizing Program:

We use our proprietary Dynamic Valve Sizing Program to determine the optimum module for every valve in your compressor. This program simulates the valves in the cylinder for the given application, using NIST real gas properties to calculate the reed displacement, velocity and forces as a function of crank angle to determine the various compressor parameters, including flow and power. It takes into consideration the cylinder and frame geometry, gas composition and operating conditions to determine exactly when the reeds open, the flow of gas through the valves and the pressure drop across the valves as a result of this flow.

## Reed valve modules with a straight-through flow path

Each StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> module is an enhanced reed valve, designed with a straight-through flow path. Since the gas doesn't have to traverse the usual tortuous, high-loss path, our valves have the highest effective area for a given diameter.

What's more, the module's components don't move or impact the metal housings. Not only is wear-and-tear completely contained inside the modules, but when compared to the larger moving mass of conventional plates, poppets, and concentric rings, the lighter metallic reeds generate a tiny fraction of impact forces and therefore typically operate at 1/10th the vibration levels of conventional valves.

With StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> valves, noise can be reduced by more than 7dB.



#### Modular Reed Technology:

Since the reeds act as both the sealing element and the spring element, the lowest natural frequency of our modules is 250Hz, well above any excitation force from an engine or motor. This high separation from excitation forces practically eliminates failure due to resonances. It also makes our valves suited to much higher speeds than are currently common in the field. Compare this to a maximum of 30Hz for poppet valves and about 80Hz for plate/ring valves where a mass (e.g., poppet/plate/ring) has helical coil springs supporting it.

### Easy to service, no need for spare assemblies

Its modular design means the StraightFlo™ valve can be easily serviced in minutes. Just undo the fasteners holding the valve assembly together, slide out the old modules with your fingers, slide in the new, and reattach the valve seat to the carrier. There's no need to ship valves offsite for machining. Plus, inventory can be minimized by over 80% compared to conventional valves. Stock 4 to 6 module types and your entire fleet of compressors is covered—no matter the brand, cylinder size, application, or operating condition—so you can repair any valve in the field without having to return to a warehouse to get the precise valve assembly or repair kit needed.

# design

The straight-through flow path makes our valves self-cleaning and highly tolerant of liquids and solids. When the reeds are wide open, liquids and solids go right through the module without any impact on the critical sealing faces. With conventional valves, liquids and solids strike the sealing element head on, often causing it to break or for the solid particles to become embedded. Embedded solids can affect the sealing surfaces to the point that the valve seat cannot be repaired and must be replaced. With StraightFlo™ valves, that doesn't happen.

#### **No Machining Required - Why It's Better**

### Highly tolerant Interchangeable, easy to re-rate

StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> modules are interchangeable between valves: whether they're 1.5" in diameter or greater than 14," whether they're suction or discharge valves, whether the valve goes into a cylinder made by Manufacturer X or Manufacturer Y.

And if your operating conditions have changed, they're also easy to rerate for the new application—just change out the present modules with modules re-designed for the new application. As long as the valve seat is pressure rated for the new application, you now have a valve for a brand-new application at very little cost.

No machining means the valve seat pressure rating never drops below that of the new valve. It also eliminates the chance of machining errors that result in tolerance stack up mistakes and prevents valves from being installed incorrectly after reconditioning.



Polymerization (Compressor had to be shut down and valve replaced every 3-4 weeks.)

StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> valve during operation for service.)



(has been running continuously for 7 years without any need



### **StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> Products**



### The StraightFlo™ unloader valve

Features the same modular design as all StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> valves and delivers the same improved performance, serviceability and *reliability. An optimal drop-in* replacement for both finger-type and plug-type unloaders.



**Plug unloader** 



Suction valve with unloader

### **Jackbolt Eliminator**







**Integral cage** 



### How much difference can a valve actually make?

The difference between profit and loss. Between a smooth operation and a frantic one. Between a safer workplace and unnecessary risk. The difference is in the details, but the effect is enormous.

## Reduce environmental impact

Replacing conventional valves with StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> valves improves compressor performance and efficiency, making the collection, transfer, and distribution of energy resources more eco-friendly. By keeping compressors running longer, there's far less gas to blowdown or flare during maintenance events.

Power consumption	Dramatically reduce your power needs	Ŷ
Improved uptime	We've significantly reduced unplanned downtime.	\$
Throughput	Not just cost-savings, we're talking large sums of real incremental dollars.	
Reduce inventory spare parts and the costs that go with them.	Shrink your inventory and the associated costs practically overnight.	
Risk mitigation	Fewer maintenance events reduces exposure to injuries and minimizes chances of secondary damage to cylinders.	$\bigwedge$



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Highly efficient valves mean less fuel consumption for the same work. Up to 10% less in a typical 1000 rpm high-speed pipeline application.

Less frequent servicing reduces emissions from the compressor due to venting, purging, flaring and blowdown by a factor of 5X to 25X. Lower power consumption reduces engine emissions by 3- 15%



Since StraightFlo™ valves don't need machining or the replacement of valve seats or guards, they create less waste.

# Innovative, efficient & green

With each passing year, there's growing concern about the environment, and legislation has become increasingly stringent. At Atlas Copco, we are committed to improving energy efficiency, reducing the carbon footprint, and protecting the planet as we benefit our customers. One of our primary goals is to help you achieve as close to net-zero as possible.

## **Reduce noise**

With no plates, poppets or rings impacting against a valve seat or guard, the StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> valve generates substantially lower vibration and noise levels than conventional valves.



### Lowest life cycle cost compressor valve

**Conventional Valves** 

### **StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> Valves**

Initial Purchase:	\$ Buy 1 set of valvesWhy buy 2 when you only need 1?	\$\$ Buy 2 sets of valves	
Operation:	<ul> <li>\$ Improved efficiency (lower CO2e emissions)</li> <li>\$ Potential for increased throughput</li> </ul>	<ul><li>\$\$ Lower efficiency (higher CO2e emissions)</li><li>\$\$ Flow constrained</li></ul>	
Maintenance:	<ul> <li>\$ Improved MTBF - Fewer maintenance events</li> <li>\$ Replace modules in the field</li> </ul>	<ul><li>\$\$ Current failure rates and unplanned shutdowns</li><li>\$\$ Swap out spare valve sets</li></ul>	
Safety:	Fewer maintenance events for personnel	A Higher number of maintenance events	
Environmental:	Ever blowdowns or flaring events	ංකු ි Higher number of blowdowns or flaring events	
Valve Repair:	<ul><li>Ø N/A</li><li>Ø 10 year warranty on valve housings</li></ul>	\$\$Send out valves to machine shopWhy buy 2+(X?)\$\$If at end of life, purchase more replacement valve assembliesWhy buy 2+(X?)	
Spares Inventory:	\$ Typically, 4-6 Interchangeable modules service an entire facility	\$\$\$ Large inventory of spare valve assemblies and unique valve repair kits	
Total Life Cycle Cost:	<b>\$\$\$\$\$ +</b> <u>^</u> + <u></u>	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ * <u>^</u> +@@	

### The difference is clear!

### About us

In 2010, the disruptive and unique StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> compressor valve was commercially introduced to the reciprocating compressor market as a drop-in replacement for conventional compressor valves. Since that time, the StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> valve, with its patented Modular Reed Valve (MRV) technology, has provided superior performance, reliability, cost savings, and emissions reduction in a broad range of applications.

In 2024, Atlas Copco Group acquired the StraightFlo<sup>™</sup> valve and associated products, greatly expanding the global reach, resources, and research and development capabilities for this groundbreaking solution. Atlas Copco is committed to continuing its legacy as an innovator in the global compressor market.





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