

THE PRESSURE'S ON!

Mick Garvey secures a lifetime supply of compressed air, courtesy of the DS Type2 compressor

One thing that has become apparent over the last few months whilst living with the knock-on effects of the CV-19 lockdown – I need air, and lots of it! Over the last few months, I have had to be rather conservative with my air usage, to the point where I was checking the air level before planning a pest-control trip.

With so much time on my hands, I dedicated much of it to researching various options, from the budget Chinese compressors through to the mid-range units, and all the way up to the high-end Daystate compressor. Videos were stacked up in my laptop for endless viewing, and certain units were dismissed immediately, whilst others were put

onto the 'requires further investigation' file.

It became quite obvious that I was not alone on this line of thinking because almost everyone had sold out of compressors of any description, even the 'big bucks' items, but the

search went on, and more were dismissed for various reasons; too much faffing around with separate cooling systems that utilised something like maybe a bucket; a fish-tank pump and tubing which all appeared rather Heath Robinson; and although I'm sure they

worked, after spending so much on my airguns, any sort of compromise was not an option. I needed something that was going to be 100% reliable, not be putting any moisture into my beloved firearms, and be capable of

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filling my dive tanks. The choice was narrowing, but the cost was soaring too. I have long been a believer in the 'buy cheap, buy twice' theory and this extends to everything I spend money on, including firearms, scopes, night-vision, pellets, thermal imaging, cars,

The Daystate Type 2 screams quality.



houses, clothing and even bait for my squirrel feeders. I will not compromise on quality, and with this mentality the choice was now easy.

WORLD RENOWNED

Let me introduce the Daystate Type 2 compressor; the all-singing, all-dancing, fully automatic, 230 volt compressor that is only one step away from the three-phase, 415 volt industrial items you see in dive shops.

The unit itself is an Italian-made Coltri item and is badged up as Daystate. It's fully enclosed within a cage and is of the quality you would expect from both Coltri and Daystate. Coltri are world renowned for their air compressors, and you know those luxury yachts you see in Monaco? They'll mostly be equipped with Coltri air compressors for diving; the lifestyles of the rich and famous, eh? Well, this is as near as I will get to that description but, I'll take it.

This Daystate compressor is by far the most expensive one in its class, but it sits at the very top of that class, head and shoulders above all the rest and you are going ask, 'is it worth the money over a cheaper unit?' So let's gets a few facts together.

FACTS AND FIGURES

The retail price is around £2394. Ouch.

It will fill both dive bottles and airguns direct, with the appropriate adaptor.

It's a 230 volt domestic supply, electric motor, so easily runs at home.

Coltri is a world-renowned compressor manufacturer and, as said, their units can be found on board many luxury yachts where money is no object and performance is the deciding factor.

It is designed primarily to stand in a corner of a dive/gun shop or gun club, and will supply



It was great to meet and chat with Tony again.

breathing quality air almost endlessly.

Dive shops will use these to fill bottles from almost empty, so the quality has to be nothing short of 100%.

For filling half-empty dive bottles for airgun use this is as good as it gets without moving into the megabucks three-phase market and a permanently connected unit.

It will fill the larger dive bottles in literally minutes and on-board gun bottles in even less time.

It is a heavy unit (approx. 90lbs) and probably best to move using two people.

It is recommended that you bleed the unit via the appropriate condensation bleed valve every 10 minutes during long fills. I tend to bleed it even during short fills, and to keep the unit in tip-top condition bleed both condensation valves periodically.

On new units it is recommended that the oil is changed after the first five hours of use and

The two drain taps to keep condensation out.



Stop/start and run meters all easily accessed.



Set the pressure and walk away.



THE DAYSTATE TYPE2 COMPRESSOR



I'd say it was definitely time for a re-fill.

every 50 hours after that.

The comprehensive manual will tell you everything you need to know on usage and maintenance.

A one-year warranty is included.

The compressor is equipped with an automatic pressure cut-off, which can be set to your requirements and basically, left safe in the

"The comprehensive manual will tell you everything you need to know on usage"

knowledge that it will cut out when the desired pressure is reached.

For on-gun bottles it is recommended that you stay in attendance during the fill because it will take a much shorter time.

OPERATION

As with any high-pressure systems caution and care must be employed throughout use, along with appropriate PPE.

There is a system for filling, as with all compressors available, and the Daystate Type2 is a simple affair. I connect the unit to a 13-amp socket. For prolonged use, such as in a shop, Daystate recommend using a dedicated 16-amp spur because the current consumption, especially on start-up, is quite high. Connect the supplied high-pressure hose to the dive bottle, making sure the main valve and bleed valve on the bottle are closed. It is also recommended that the unit is started with condensation valves in the 'open' position so the start-up load is kept to a minimum.

Once air is flowing through the HP hose and the pressure is rising on the unit's gauge, the



Connect, start and fill – simples!

condensation valves can be closed and the bottle valves opened. You will soon see the pressure gauges rising on the compressor and the bottle gauges. With the unit's gauge set to 300bar, the compressor will automatically shut down as soon as this pressure is reached. Just bleed the system, by the condensation valve, and that my friends, is that – bottle filled in

minutes from part full, or longer from empty. Just remember to purge the condensation valves every 10 minutes on longer fills – you will see a blast of air and water being expelled from the valve when opened, and this is normal. The T2 runs with a satisfying hum. It's not silent, but you can't hear it from the next room.

DAYSTATE HOSPITALITY

Now, all of the above might seem exhaustive, but some of it will apply to any compressors currently available – apart from the price, obviously but it's not what it costs, it's what you get for your money, and the Daystate Type2 compressor is as good as it gets ... fact!

I actually travelled down to Daystate and met with Tony Belas for a brief tour of the showroom, sticking strictly to the social distancing guidelines that were still in place, and for some brief usage instructions, and I mean brief because it is so simple. It was great to chat with Tony, and to handle some of the Daystate range of air rifles. I consider myself not just an airgunner – or enthusiast, even – I

live and breathe my sport and despite my allegiance to FX, you will always see me handling and shouldering other manufacturer's guns, such is my passion for what I do, and I have to say Daystate do turn out some pretty good airguns ... very good indeed, and I thank Tony for his hospitality.

Tony has even posted a video on YouTube and it can be found here <https://youtu.be/Y3IU0k2E9S8>. There are many other videos, but they are mostly on the type1 compressor, which is essentially the same, but I am going to carry out some thorough testing and performance checks and I'll be posting my own YouTube video on the 'Mick Garvey Air Attack' channel.

So, in all honesty, can I recommend the Daystate type2 compressor? Hell, yeah, I can! Money well spent in my opinion, and I implore you to check them out and weigh up the options – I think you'll see exactly what I mean – and why I chose the Daystate Type2! ■

I keep a written record of every fill.

