Air Compressors and Suction Pumps

Suction and Compressor, things you need to look for.

A quick easy way to tell if the motors are going bad on a suction pump and air compressor is put your hand on the running motor if it is to hot and you must remove your hand the motor is going bad. (Service Technician trick). Depending on the age it is less expensive to buy a new unit. Consider this; to replace the head there will be 2 service calls (diagnosis and install) plus the cost of a motor, $1,500 to $2,000. What does a new unit cost and includes warranty.

Suggest a Preventive Maint Plan.

In a new installation, the doctor will need to have an electrician and a plumber. This also goes for replacing an older unit, let them know this up front. HSD, service technicians are neither of these.

1- How much room do we have? Will it interfere with a door or a heater/air conditioner? Measure entire space, leave nothing to guess.

2- How many dentist and hygienist are working on the busiest day? Ask if they are having problems with the amount of air or suction on these days.

3- Take a picture of the Manufactures Serial Number and Model Number.

4- Air Compressor, Oiled Systems, cannot be bought anymore, Dry Systems are inherently nosier than Wet. Dr. may need to insulate, TELL this to them up front.

5- Kevin, suggest a doctor buy a Sears Compressor and put in Q’d’s so that if his compressor stops working, the doctor can hook up the Sears and keep working.

6- Suction Unit, Does the doctor have Nitrous? Y or N

7- Suction Unit, Is their current system a dry system or wet ( says on the unit) Water Recycler for wet suction

8- Take pictures. Lots

   a. Need clear picture of pipe that connects Suction unit and pipe that goes to operatory.

9- Yes, the customer may need.

   a. Tell customer they may need an electrician

   b. Tell customer they may need a plumber.

   c. New unit, you will need specs

10- Removal of old compressor and suction heads is considered hazmat and there is a fee.

11- Installation will take several hours depending on location of old unit. If in a tight closet expect delay, if in basement a quicker install, crawl spaces take forever.

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