Fluid power

Definition

It is the technology that deals with the generation, control and transmission of power using pressurized fluids.

Application

1 – Fluid power drives high – wire over head tram



2 – Fluid power is applied to harvesting corn.



3 – Hydraulics power brush drives.



- 4 Fluid power position and holds parts for welding.
- 5 Fluid power performs bridge maintenance.
- 6 Fluid power is the muscle in industrial till trucks.



7 - Fluid power drives front – end loaders.

8 – Hydraulics power robotic dexterous arm.





Advantages

- 1 Ease and accuracy of control.
- 2 Multiplication of force.
- 3 Constant force or torque.
- 4 Simplicity, safety and economy.
- 5 Protection against overloads.
- 6 Infinitely variable speed control.
- 7 Have the highest horsepower per weight ratio of any known power source.



Drawbacks

- 1 Hydraulic oils are messy.
- 2 Leakage is impossible to eliminate completely.
- 3 Hydraulic lines can burst (high speed oil jets and flying pieces of metal).
- 4 Loud noise from pumps (loss of hearing).
- 5 Most hydraulic oils can cause fires if oil leaks in an area of hot equipment.

Components of fluid power system:

A) Hydraulic system:

Seven basic components:

- 1 A tank (reservoir).
- 2 Hydraulic oil.
- 3 A pump to force the liquid through the system.
- 4 An electric motor or other power source to drive the pump.
- 5 Valves to control liquid direction, pressure, and flow rate.
- 6 An actuator to convert the energy of the liquid into mechanical force or torque to do useful work (Linear motion from cylinders and rotary motion from hydraulic motor).
- 7 Piping carries the liquid from one location to another.



Hydraulic circuit

B) Pneumatic system:

- 1 An air tank to store a given volume of compressed air.
- 2- Compressed air.
- 3 A compressor to compress the air that comes directly from the atmosphere.
- 4 An electric motor or other prime mover to drive the compressor.
- 5 Valves to control air direction, pressure and flow rate.
- 6 Actuators, which are similar in operation to hydraulic actuators.
- 7 Piping to carry the pressurized air from one location to another.
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2- Hydraulic fluid

Hydraulic fluid functions:

- 1 Transmit power.
- 2 Lubricate moving parts
- 3 Seal clearances between mating pats.
- 4 Dissipate heat.
- 5 Prevent corrosion.

Hydraulic fluid properties

- 1 Good lubricity.
- 2 Ideal viscosity.
- 3 Chemical and environmental stability.
- 4 Compatibility with system materials.
- 5 High degree of incompressible.
- 6 Fire resistance.
- 7 Good heat transfer capability.
- 8 Low density.
- 9 Foam resistance.
- 10 No toxicity.
- 11 Low volatility.
- 12 Inexpensive.
- 13 Ready availability.