

# Consumers Energy

**LOCATION:**

Marion, MI

**APPLICATION:**

Engine Starting System Upgrade

**ENGINE/COMPRESSOR:**

CLARK HBA-10

**DISTRIBUTOR/REP:**

Sulzer Turbo Systems

**ALTRONIC PRODUCTS:**

SaveAir Starting System  
AGV5-2 Fuel Valve  
CPU-2000 Ignition System

**OVERVIEW:**

Consumers Energy Muskegon River Compressor Station undertook engine panel upgrades on most of their engines. An Altronic CPU-2000 Ignition System, AGV5-2 fuel valve and SaveAir Starter System were installed on a Clark HBA-10 as part of these upgrades. The old cam-operated starting system on this engine was a maintenance nightmare. It was driven by a camshaft that opened and closed the starting valves, and it required constant service.

Exline Ignition and Automation removed the OEM cam-operated starter system and replaced it with the maintenance-free SaveAir.

The installation cost of the SaveAir was less than installing a ring gear starter system.

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All of the valves in the SaveAir system are electronic, which makes troubleshooting and service much easier.

The operators no longer had to the blow down the compressor before starting the unit. The SaveAir easily rolled the engine over with full compressor pressure, saving hundreds of dollars in lost gas, while helping to lower greenhouse gases.

Consumers Energy is conducting a review all of their compressor stations and upgrading their panels with new PLC controllers and starter systems. They will install 4 to 6 units over the next two years.

According to Janet Simon, Field Planner Scheduler for Consumers Energy, "We were very surprised that the SaveAir System was able to start this engine without blowing down the compressor, and we also noted that the start time has been significantly reduced."

