

Food For Thought

MOUVEX® B200 SERIES FLOW CONTROL SCREW COMPRESSORS DELIVER THE LOWER WEIGHT, SAFER OPERATION AND REDUCED NOISE THAT TANKTRANSPORT THYS NEEDS FOR ITS FOOD-TRANSPORT BUSINESS

By Jean-Marc Bernard



As Fleet Manager for Tanktransport Thys, Sven Beeusaert is responsible for ensuring that the company's rolling stock meets the edicts of the new Euro 6 regulation. Beeusaert's job has been made easier with the installation of Mouvex® B200 Series Flow Control Screw Compressors, which help bring a truck's weight within the recommended limits of the Euro 6 standard, while also being a more cost-effective alternative to vane compressors.

Since 1974, if you've eaten a potato chip in Belgium, spread margarine on a piece of bread in The Netherlands or put mayonnaise on a turkey sandwich in Germany, there's a good chance that either the finished product or one of its ingredients was transported at some point in the production chain by a Tanktransport Thys N.V. truck and road tanker.

Tanktransport Thys was founded in Antwerp, Belgium, forty years ago by Walter Thys. Acquired by his son Frank Thys in 1997, the company has grown to become one of the leading transporters of liquid food products in the Western European countries of Belgium, The Netherlands, Luxembourg, Germany, Denmark and Switzerland. By focusing on the core values of "quality, punctuality and safety," Tanktransport Thys has built a customer base that consists of some of the leading European food manufacturers, for whom Thys transports liquid food

products such as vegetable oils and fats, glycerines, brewer's yeast, fruit juice aromas, demineralized water and wines.

Facilitating the delivery of both raw materials and finished end products for Tanktransport Thys is a fleet of trucks and road tankers.

QUICK FACTS

- Company:** Tanktransport Thys N.V.
- Location:** Antwerp, Belgium
- Market:** Transport, Liquid Food Products
- Distributor:** Humblet Hydraulics, Kontich, Belgium
- Challenge:** Tanktransport Thys needed to reduce the weight and cost of its truck compressors while meeting new Euro 6 emissions guidelines.
- Solution:** Mouvex® B200 Series Flow Control Screw Compressor



The Tanktransport Thys fleet is capable of unloading a wide variety of liquid-food products and ingredients, from rapeseed oil (above) to mayonnaise, all with the assistance of Mouvex® B200 Series Flow Control Screw Compressors.

“Our fleet currently has 54 tractor units and 80 tankers,” said Sven Beeusaert, Fleet Manager for Tanktransport Thys. “Our fleet of stainless-steel road tankers is comprised of single-chamber road tankers, several three-chamber road tankers and 20 jumbo road tankers, which can carry around 60,000 liters (15,850 gallons).”

A Weighty Problem

But making a delivery is not as easy as loading the tanker and hitting the road. In Europe, there are many regulations that govern the trucking industry. One of the most critical is the European Commission legislation known as “Euro X” that regulates the amount of diesel exhaust a truck can emit, as well as its overall weight. In January 2014, the latest legislation—Euro 6, which was introduced in 2007—went into full effect and mandated that all new trucks and buses must be equipped with a Euro 6-certified engine.

Tanktransport Thys has met the edicts of the Euro 6 legislation by purchasing a number of new Volvo trucks that will replace old Scania models that it had been using.

“All of their trucks are equipped with a compressor, many of them with old vane compressors,” explained Stefan De Herdt, Commercial Manager for Humblet Hydraulics, Kontich, Belgium. “The vane compressors require a pressure-line filter because there is the possibility that particles of

the vanes will break off and get into the tank, which is not allowed when hauling products for the food industry.”

Additional concerns for Tanktransport Thys were the weight of the vane compressors and pressure-line filters, the cost of the pressure-line filter, which could be as high as €1,000 (\$1,360), and the noise level of the vane compressors, which could make early-morning or late-night deliveries problematic.

“In our industry, the weight of the truck is really important so we can get as much as possible in payload into the tanker,” said Beeusaert. “Because of that, we had begun reducing the fuel capacity of the trucks to gain some weight. The sterile pressure-line filter is also quite expensive, and also adds five to 10 kilograms (11 to 22 pounds) of weight. The noise of the compressors is also important because we have to unload at night or early in the morning, and if we get noise complaints from neighboring companies they can forbid us from unloading at certain times, which is an operational disadvantage.”

To overcome these challenges, in 2011 Tanktransport Thys turned to De Herdt and Humblet Hydraulics for a solution.

Turning The Screws

“I had previously worked with a company that sold them vane compressors, so I knew what they had and I knew I would be able to convince them to switch brands to Mouvex®,” said De Herdt.



The new Euro 6 regulation forced Sven Beeusaert, left, Fleet Manager for Tanktransport Thys, to turn to Stefan De Herdt, Commercial Manager of Humblet Hydraulics, for a solution to truck weight and cost concerns. De Herdt's recommended solution: Mouvex® B200 Series Flow Control Screw Compressors.

Mouvex, Auxerre, France, which was founded in 1906, is a leading manufacturer of positive displacement pumps and compressors for the transfer of liquids or dry-bulk products. In 2008, Mouvex became a founding member of the Dover Corporation's Pump Solutions Group (PSG®), Oakbrook Terrace, IL, USA. Humblet Hydraulics, which was founded in 1976 by Paul Humblet and is a distributor of equipment for hydraulic mobile applications in Western Europe, began representing Mouvex products in 2010.

Specific to the Tanktransport Thys fleet, De Herdt, who joined Humblet Hydraulics in 2010, recommended the Mouvex B200 Series Flow Control Screw Compressor.

"I knew the opportunity was there for them to use the B200 and in 2011 they changed to the B200 compressors," said De Herdt. "The first order was for 14 B200s that were installed on their Scania trucks. In 2013, we got a new order for 35 B200s for their new Volvos. We have installed 30 of them on the Volvos, with five more scheduled for installation early next year."

The B200 screw compressors meet the needs of Tanktransport Thys because they feature a robust, rugged design and have been enhanced with special protectants on the screws and body that allows them to be used with a broader range of food products. Because their flow is optimized, they can deliver operational efficiencies that vane compressors are incapable of providing. In addition, most exterior components are constructed of stainless steel, including the flanges and hose.

The result is a screw compressor that requires no prop shaft, drive shaft or mounting bracket, while being compatible with standard power takeoffs (PTO). Operationally, the B200s deliver increased safety due to no rotating shafts, faster unloading times, higher flow rates and reduced maintenance.

For Tanktransport Thys, the B200 screw compressors check all of the right boxes: lower weight, filter-less operation and reduced noise.

"We were quickly convinced of the benefits of the B200 and started investing in them," said Beeusaert. "They are very light in comparison to the competition, with a benefit of 50 to 60 kilograms (110 to 130 pounds). That's a big plus because finding 50 kilograms on a truck is not easy. With the B200s, there is no wear on the screws, so we don't have any particles in the product, and we don't need an additional sterile filter, which is quite expensive, and we also don't have to worry about the weight of the filter or

Coming Clean

As one of the leading transports of liquid food products in Western Europe, Tanktransport Thys, Antwerp, Belgium, knows how important it is to keep the tankers that are charged with hauling the food products as hygienic as possible. That's why Thys has developed Cleaning Thys N.V., a subsidiary based in Merksem, Belgium, that is designed to thoroughly clean tankers that handle food products.

The Cleaning Thys facility has a two-lane road-tanker cleaning operation that is computer controlled so that it fully conforms to the latest Hazardous Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) standards for cleanliness. The HACCP regulation has been designed to be a systematic preventive approach to food safety from a biological, chemical and physical hazards standpoint during the production process.

To best meet the tenets of HACCP regulation, Cleaning Thys features an automatic cleaning system that has been designed to also clean the pressure line and delivery pipes, while it is also able to disinfect and seal the tankers. It is also able to perform kosher cleaning, if necessary, through the use of a steamer to clean and dry the road tankers.

When determining which pumps to use at the facility, Cleaning Thys turned to Gröninger Cleaning Systems, Schiedam, The Netherlands. Gröninger is a specialist in fabricating high-pressure cleaning systems and equipment and, as such, was quick to recommend air-operated double-diaphragm (AODD) pumps from Wilden®, Grand Terrace, CA, a member of Dover Corporation's Pump Solutions Group (PSG®), Oakbrook Terrace, IL, USA.

Specifically, Cleaning Thys uses four aluminum Wilden Advanced™ Series A.025 (6.4 mm/0.25") AODD Pumps for chemical-dosing applications and a PVDF A.025 pump for general fluid-transfer applications.



When Sven Beeusaert sets the chemical-dosing rate at the Cleaning Thys facility, a series of four aluminum Wilden® Advanced™ Series A.025 AODD Pumps are called into action.



maintaining them, either. Also, the noise level is a lot less than the vane compressors.”

Tanktransport Thys has been so impressed with the performance of the B200 screw compressors that it will recommend that a B200 be installed on trucks that are owned by any contractors it uses.

“They have an agreement that if they are working with a new contractor, or if a current one is changing a compressor, that we install a new B200 for them,” said De Herdt. “So far, we have installed five new B200s for Thys contractors.”

Conclusion

For the food manufacturer, the demand is simple: make sure the delivery occurs when promised. While Tanktransport Thys has a well-established reputation for meeting the on-time needs of its customers, its business model demands more than just on-time delivery. That’s why Tanktransport Thys has staked its lot with Mouvex B200 Series Flow Control Screw Compressors, which provide it with the lower weight, and more efficient and quieter operation that are required—all with the benefit of a generous three-year warranty.



For four decades, the Thys Tanktransport fleet has been one of the leading transporters of liquid food products in Western Europe.



Mouvex® B200 Series Flow Control Screw Compressor with special check and relief valve.

“We are very pleased with the B200s,” said Beeusaert. “Less weight is the major benefit, but we also are happy with the filter-less design and lower noise output. Another big advantage is the three-year unlimited warranty. Normally, it’s only one year, but Mouvex gives us three. We are looking forward to turning our complete fleet over to the B200s.”

About the Author:

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