

34.4  $1000 \frac{lb}{min}$  of  $90^\circ F$  atmospheric air is compressed and stored in a tank at  $150 psia$ . The compressor has an efficiency of 92%. How much power is required to drive the compressor?

- A. 2100hp
- B. 2700hp
- C. 3200hp
- D. 5600hp

Consider the entering air as State 1 and the exiting air being stored in the tank as State 2. Look up **Constant Entropy Process** and use the equation below to find the *isentropic exit temperature* i.e. the ideal exit temperature if the compression process was isentropic. Use absolute temperature units i.e. Rankine.

$$\frac{T_2}{T_1} = \left( \frac{P_2}{P_1} \right)^{\frac{k-1}{k}}$$

$$T_{es} = T_2 = T_1 \left( \frac{P_2}{P_1} \right)^{\frac{k-1}{k}} = (550R) \left( \frac{150 psia}{14.7 psia} \right)^{\frac{1.4-1}{1.4}} = 1068R = 608^\circ F$$

Use the **Compressor Isentropic Efficiency** to find the actual exit temperature for the compressor,  $T_e$ .

$$\eta_C = \frac{T_{es} - T_i}{T_e - T_i}$$

$$T_e = T_i + \frac{(T_{es} - T_i)}{\eta_C}$$

$$T_e = 90^\circ F + \frac{(608^\circ F - 90^\circ F)}{0.92} = 653^\circ F$$

Calculate the power to drive the **Compressor**. Use **Measurement Relationships** to convert units to *hp*.

$$\dot{W}_{comp} = \dot{m}c_p(T_e - T_i)$$

$$\dot{W}_{comp} = \left( 1000 \frac{lb}{min} \right) \left( 0.24 \frac{Btu}{lb^\circ F} \right) (653^\circ F - 90^\circ F) = 135,130 \frac{Btu}{min}$$

$$\dot{W}_{comp} = 135,130 \frac{Btu}{min} \left( \frac{1hp}{42.4 \frac{Btu}{min}} \right) = 3178hp$$

**Answer C**