

**37.70**  $20 \frac{\text{lb}_m}{\text{min}}$  of  $50^\circ F$  air at atmospheric pressure enters an air compressor and exits at  $350^\circ F$ . What is the power required to drive the compressor?

- A.  $34hp$
- B.  $40hp$
- C.  $114hp$
- D.  $142hp$

Consider the air entering the **Compressor** as State 1 and the air exiting the compressor as State 2. Since there is not enough information about State 2 to fully define it, assume the air behaves as an **Ideal Gas with Constant Specific Heats**. Solve for the compressor power and convert units to  $hp$ .

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

$$\dot{W}_{comp} = \left(20 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{min}}\right) \left(0.24 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lb} \cdot ^\circ F}\right) (350^\circ F - 50^\circ F) = 1440 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{min}}$$

$$\dot{W}_{comp} = 1440 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{min}} \left(\frac{60\text{min}}{1\text{hr}}\right) \left(\frac{1\text{KW}}{3412 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{hr}}}\right) \left(\frac{1\text{hp}}{0.7457\text{KW}}\right) = 34\text{hp}$$

**Answer A**