

31.11  $1 \frac{lb_m}{min}$  of pure oxygen at  $14.7psia$  and  $68^\circ F$  will be distributed on an aircraft during an emergency through a  $3in$  diameter main duct. What is the velocity?

- A.  $30 \frac{ft}{min}$
- B.  $250 \frac{ft}{min}$
- C.  $270 \frac{ft}{min}$
- D.  $310 \frac{ft}{min}$

Mass flow rate and volume flow rate are related by the density.

$$\dot{m} = \rho Q$$

Volume flow rate may be represented as velocity times area.

$$Q = VA$$

Substitute, and solve for velocity.

$$\dot{m} = \rho VA \rightarrow V = \frac{\dot{m}}{\rho A}$$

The mass flow rate is given. Find the area of the duct.

$$A = \frac{\pi}{4} D^2 = \frac{\pi}{4} \left( \frac{3in}{12 \frac{in}{ft}} \right)^2 = 0.049 ft^2$$

Treat oxygen as an ideal gas. Density can be found by adapting the **Ideal Gas** law. The **Gas Constant** for oxygen must be determined from the **Universal Gas Constant** and the molecular weight. Be sure to use absolute temperature i.e. Rankine rather than degrees Fahrenheit.

$$PV = mRT \rightarrow P = \rho RT \rightarrow \rho = \frac{P}{RT}$$

$$R_{O_2} = \frac{\bar{R}}{M_{O_2}} = \frac{1545 \frac{ft \cdot lb_f}{lb_{mol} \cdot ^\circ R}}{32 \frac{lb_m}{lb_{mol}}} = 48.3 \frac{ft \cdot lb_f}{lb_m \cdot ^\circ R}$$

$$\rho = \frac{P}{RT} = \frac{\left( 14.7 \frac{lb_f}{in^2} \right) \left( \frac{144 in^2}{1 ft^2} \right)}{\left( 48.3 \frac{ft \cdot lb_f}{lb_m \cdot ^\circ R} \right) (528^\circ R)} = 0.083 \frac{lb_m}{ft^3}$$

Calculate the velocity.

$$V = \frac{\dot{m}}{\rho A} = \frac{\left( 1 \frac{lb_m}{min} \right)}{\left( 0.083 \frac{lb_m}{ft^3} \right) (0.049 ft^2)} = 246 \frac{ft}{min}$$

**Answer B**