First edition
2014-10-01

Pneumatic fluid power — Determination of flow-rate characteristics of components using compressible fluids —

Part 3: Method for calculating steady-state flow-rate characteristics of systems

Transmissions pneumatiques — Détermination des caractéristiques de débit des composants —

Partie 3: Méthode de calcul des caractéristiques de débit stationnaire des assemblages

Reference number
ISO 6358-3:2014(E)

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Published in Switzerland

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Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: Foreword - Supplementary information

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 131, *Fluid power systems*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Control products and components*.

This first edition of ISO 6358-3, together with ISO 6358-1 and ISO 6358-2, cancels and replaces ISO 6358:1989 which has been technically revised. However, Parts 2 and 3 are new standards whose scopes were not included in ISO 6358:1989.

ISO 6358 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Pneumatic fluid power — Determination of flow-rate characteristics of components using compressible fluids*:

— *Part 1: General rules and test methods for steady-state flow*

— *Part 2: Alternative test methods*

— *Part 3: Method for calculating steady-state flow-rate characteristics of systems*

Introduction

In pneumatic fluid power systems, power is transmitted and controlled through a gas under pressure within a circuit. Components that make up such a circuit are inherently resistive to the flow of the gas, and it is necessary, therefore, to define and determine the characteristics that describe their flow-rate performance.

ISO 6358:1989 specified a method to determine the flow-rate characteristics of pneumatic valves, based upon a model of converging nozzles. The method included two characteristic parameters: sonic conductance, C, and critical pressure ratio, b, used in a proposed mathematical approximation of the flow behaviour. The result described flow performance of a pneumatic valve from choked (sonic) flow to subsonic flow.

Experience has demonstrated that many pneumatic valves have converging-diverging characteristics that do not fit the ISO 6358:1989 model very well. A change was necessary to take into account the influence of the flow velocity on pressure measurements. Furthermore, new developments have allowed the application of this method to additional components beyond pneumatic valves. However, this now requires the use of four parameters (C, b, m, and Δp_c) to define the flow performance in both the choked (sonic) and subsonic regions.

This part of ISO 6358 uses a set of four flow-rate characteristic parameters determined from test results. These parameters are described as follows and are listed in decreasing order of priority:

— The sonic conductance, C corresponding to the maximum flow rate (choked), is the most important parameter. This parameter is defined by the upstream stagnation conditions.

— The critical back-pressure ratio, b, representing the boundary between choked and subsonic flow, is second in importance. Its definition differs here from the one in ISO 6358:1989 because it corresponds to the ratio of downstream to upstream stagnation pressures.

— The subsonic index, m, is used if necessary to represent more accurately the subsonic flow behaviour. For components with a fixed flow path (i.e. one that does not vary with pressure or flow rate), m is distributed around 0,5. In these cases, only the first two characteristic parameters C and b are necessary. For many other components, m varies widely; in these cases, it is necessary to determine C, b and m.

— The parameter Δp_c, is the cracking pressure. This parameter is used only for pneumatic components that open with increasing upstream pressure, such as non-return (check) valves or one-way flow control valves.

Several changes to the test equipment were made to overcome apparent violations of the theory of compressible fluid flow. This included expanded inlet pressure-measuring tubes to satisfy the assumptions of negligible inlet velocity to the item under test and to allow the inlet stagnation pressure to be measured directly. Expanded outlet tubes allowed the direct measurement of downstream stagnation pressure to better accommodate different component models. The difference between stagnation pressure upstream and downstream of a component means a loss of pressure energy.

For testing a component with a large nominal bore, to shorten testing time or to reduce energy consumption, it is desirable to apply the methods specified in ISO 6358-2, which covers a discharge test and a charge test as alternative test methods.

This part of ISO 6358 can be used to calculate without measurements an estimate of the overall flow rate characteristics of a system of components and piping. In most cases, the flow rate characteristics of components are determined in accordance with Parts 1 or 2 of ISO 6358; however, the flow rate characteristics of some components are expressed by flow rate coefficients other than those defined in ISO 6358. Formulas to calculate nearly equivalent flow rate characteristics are given.