



*A Fluor Company*



INSTRUMENTS

# Energy savings at a glass factory

By insertion flow meters combined  
with compressor controls

# Introduction



## Pascal van Putten

CEO VP Instruments

VP Instruments offers industrial clients Energy Management Solutions for compressed air, technical gases as well as other utilities.

> 20 years experience

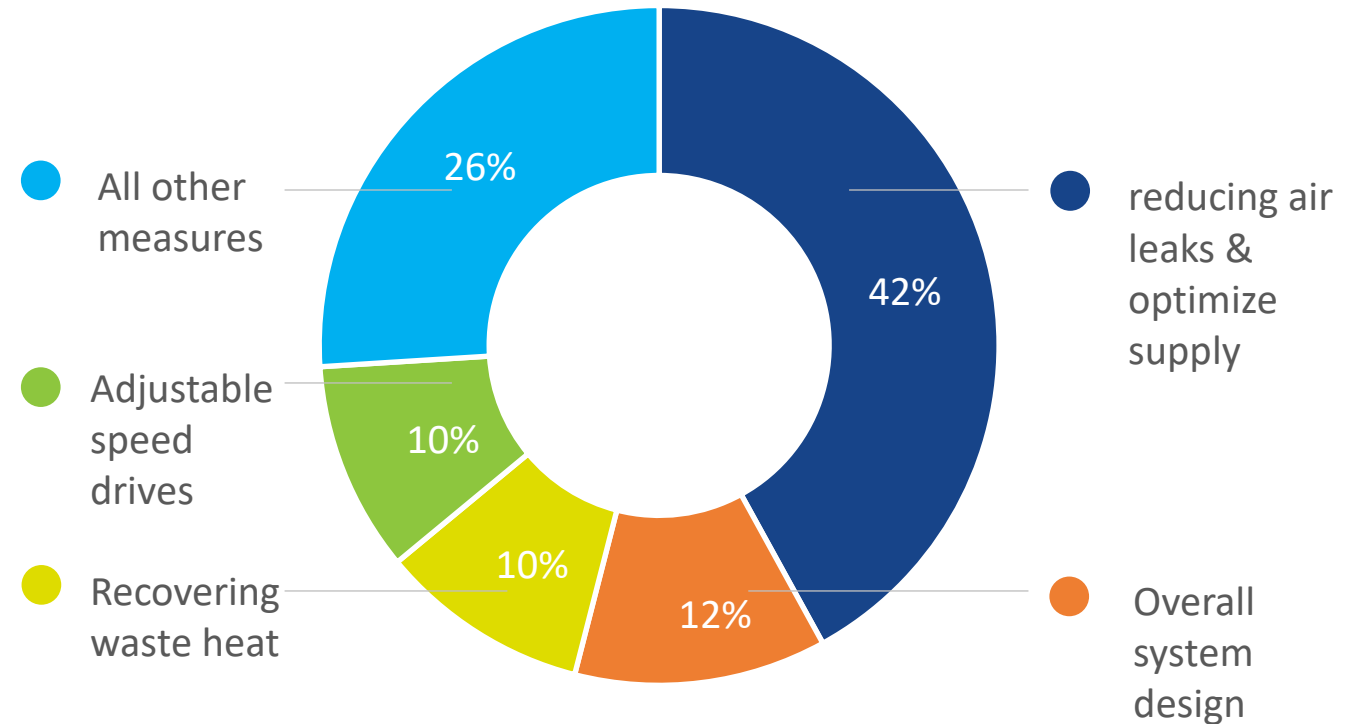
# Compressed air in glass industry

Critical utility for production  
 Up to 30% of electricity costs  
 Savings potential up to 50%

Pressure band width is critical:

- Quality of glass
- Continued production

Major energy saving measures





A background image showing the glass bottle manufacturing process. Molten glass is being poured from a spout into two molds held by a mechanical arm. The glass is glowing orange-red from heat. The machinery is dark and industrial.

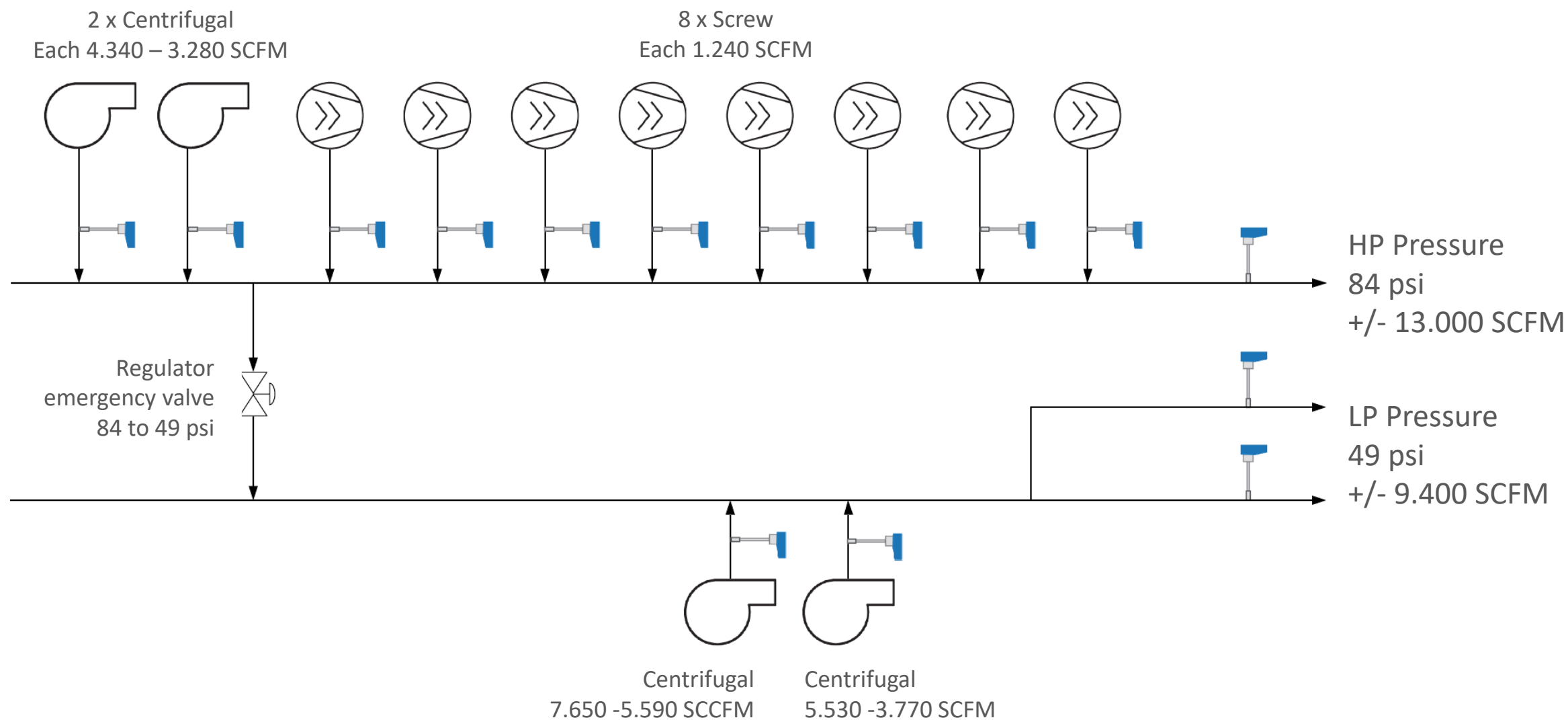
## Compressed air system lay out

Low pressure  
High pressure

@ 49 psi  
@ 84 psi

av. consumption 9.400 SCFM  
av. consumption 13.000 SCFM

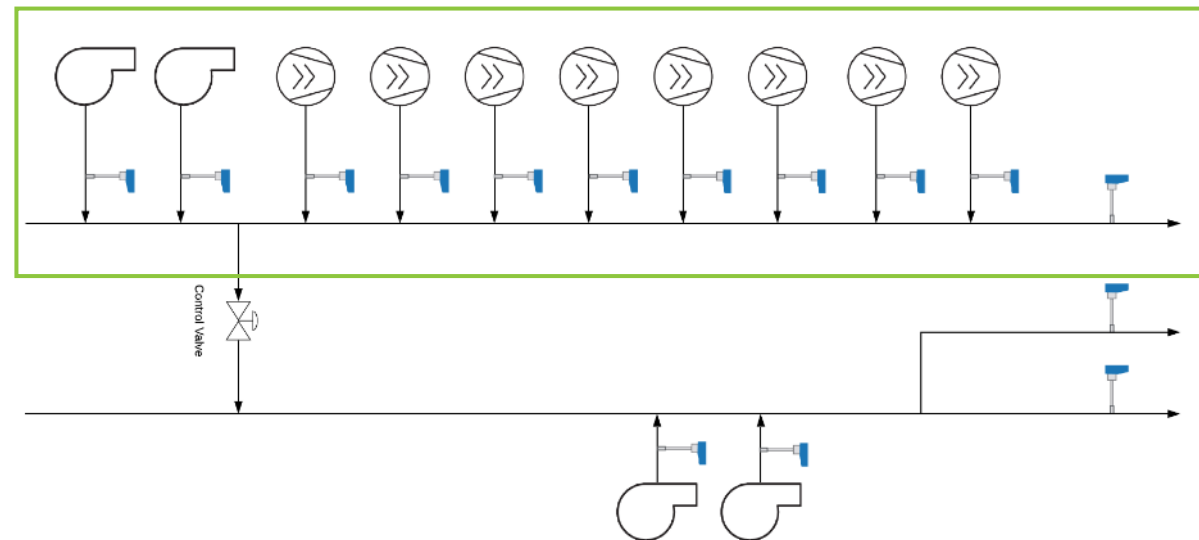
# Compressor room lay out - before



# Before implementation

## High pressure system:

- Both centrifugal air compressors always running full load.
- Screw compressors started @ 84 psi: resulting in pressure fluctuations: 81,75..85,40 psi.
- Unloaded hours on screw compressors.
- Emergency regulator: only activated when pressure drops in LP system to 46,7 psi.
- Flow meters installed in 2013 + only for indication: observe flow/HP/h consumption.

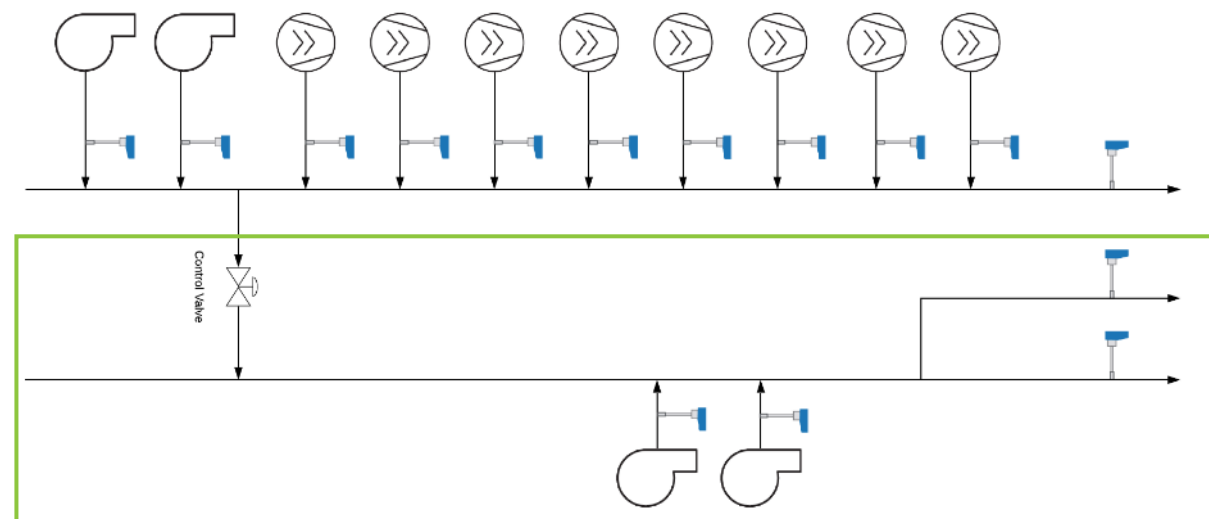




# Before implementation

## Low pressure system:

- LP compressor: maintaining 49 psi in main header.
- Compressors running without communications but on same system pressure transmitter.
- No loadsharing.
- Occasional blow off.



# How do we add value

✓ Install & connect flow meters

✓ Install booster compressor

✓ Modify regulator valve

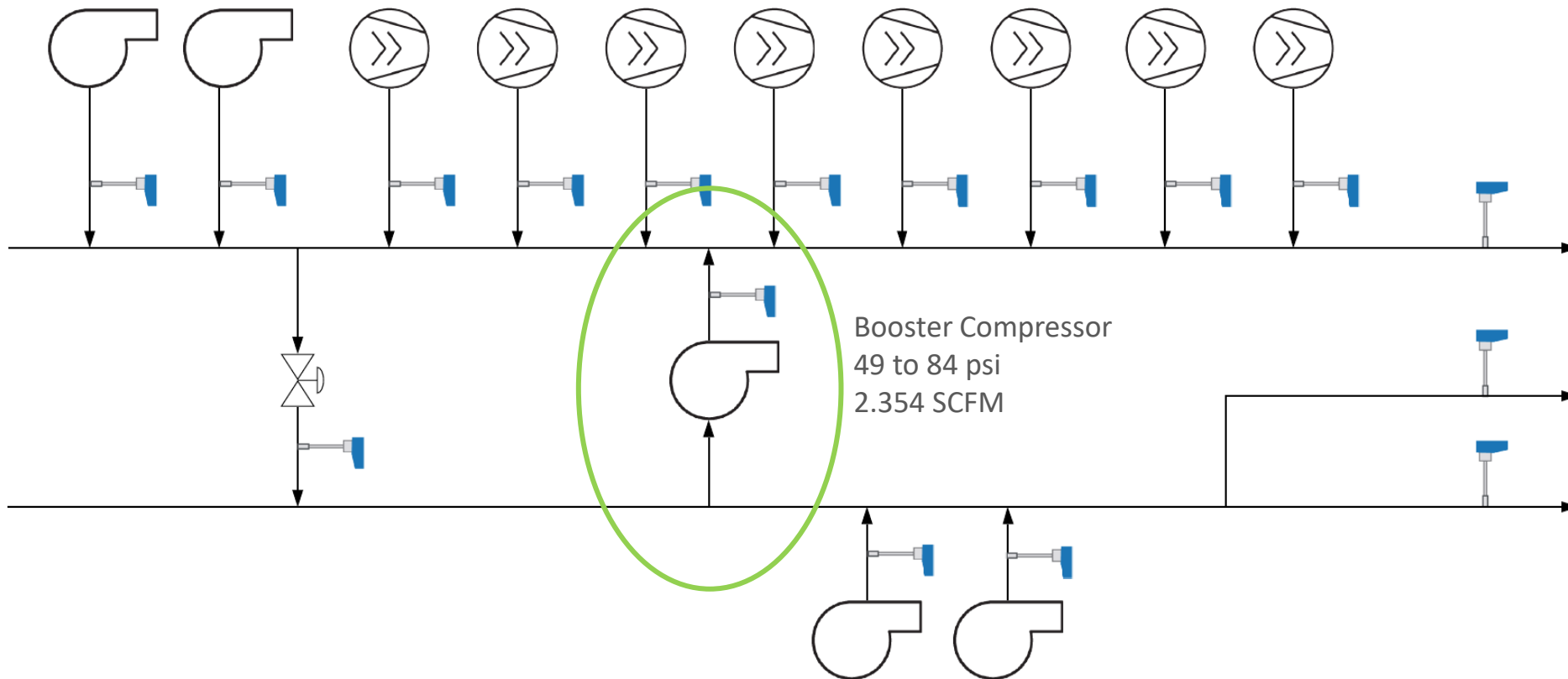
✓ Install Master controller

Energy savings !





# Compressor room lay out - improvements

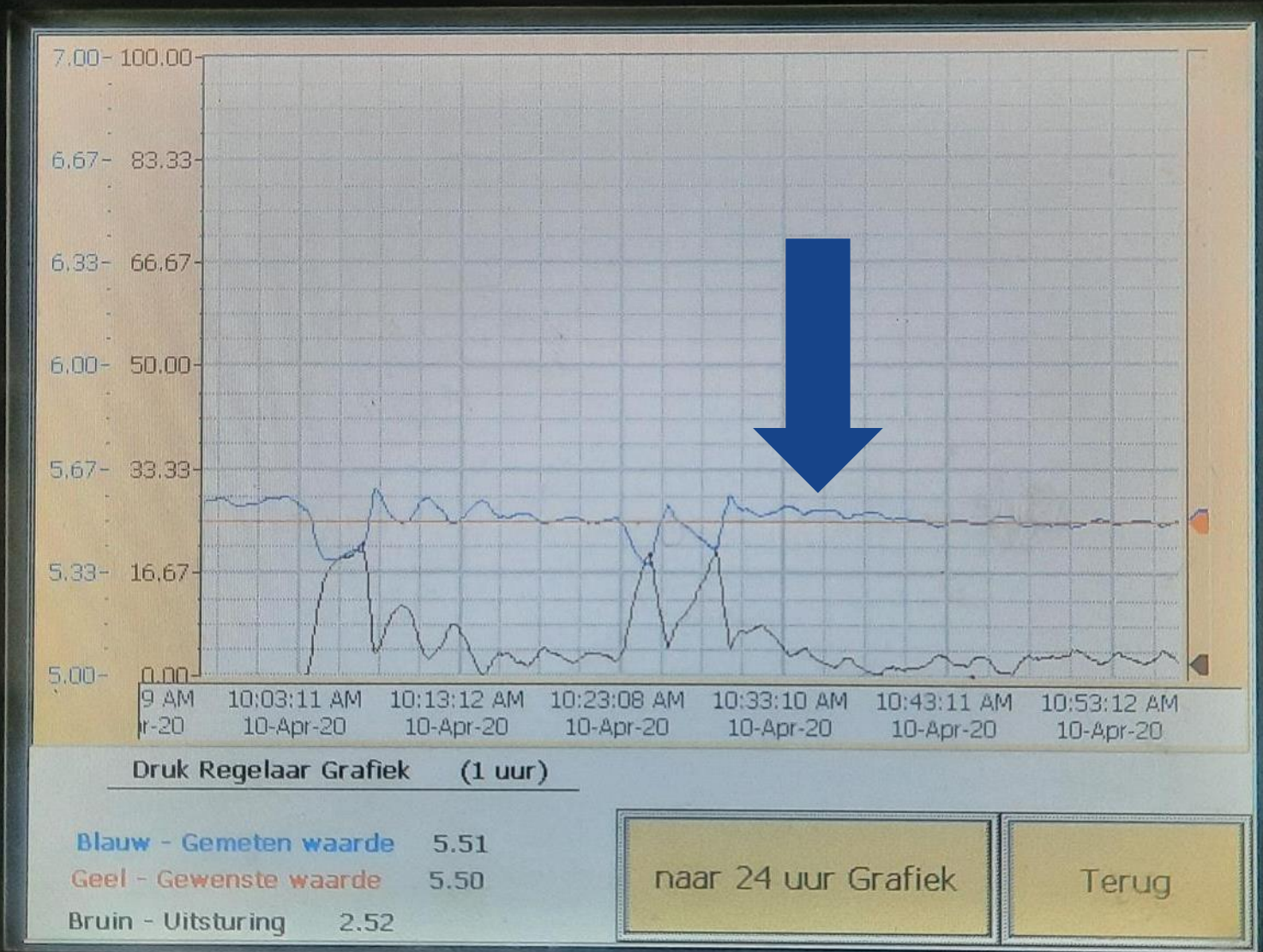


# Requirement from customer

- LP system is most critical. Pressure 49 psi. Dev. +/- 0.7 psi.
- Energy savings @ maximum when booster compressor is running full load.
- Energy savings @ maximum when screw compressors are only running full load.  
(implemented at phase 2)
- When one of the low pressure units trips actions:
  - Booster should unload and stopped.
  - Screw compressors starts up depending on the needed flow.
  - Emergency regulator valve should open to maintain the low pressure.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Phase implementation results

- Installation centrifugal booster : capacity 2.354 SCFM.
  - Booster feeds the HP system: 2 screw compressors are not needed
- Rebuild LP + HP compressors to a new control system including load sharing.
- Rebuild existing control from emergency control valve to Stork controller.
- Use flow meters to control demand to booster.



Energy savings :  
294 kW/hr.  
\$ 151.500

Just the beginning....









# THANK YOU!

**VPInstruments**

[info@vpinstruments.com](mailto:info@vpinstruments.com)

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easy insight into energy flows™

VPinstruments  
Buitenwatersloot 335  
2614 GS Delft  
The Netherlands  
T +31 (0)15 213 15 80  
[info@vpinstruments.com](mailto:info@vpinstruments.com)  
[www.vpinstruments.com](http://www.vpinstruments.com)

