



Technical Bulletin

Select the Right Type of Actuator - Don't Let Hidden Operating Costs Sink Your Ship

More than the Initial Purchase Price . . .

When comparing different actuation technologies, equipment purchases are often decided based on initial up-front purchase cost. Ongoing operating costs can far exceed up-front purchase costs and over time have significant impact on a company's bottom line.

Evaluating the annual operating costs for different types of actuators provides a comprehensive picture of the Total Cost of Ownership. See how Kyntronics SMART Electro-Hydraulic Actuators (SHA) compare to traditional hydraulic power units (HPUs) with hydraulic cylinders.



Annual Operating Cost Comparison

Kyntronics SMART Electro-Hydraulic Actuator (SHA) vs. Traditional Hydraulic System (HPU)

Operating Cost Component	SHA	HPU	Assumptions / Cost Basis (April 2022)
Environmental			200 Gallon HPU Tank Hydraulic Fluid Index (HFI) = 4.1 SHA is sealed - no fluid replacement or disposal is required
Oil Replenishment	\$0	\$30,400	\$38/gal X 800 gallons (4:1 HFI)
Used Oil Disposal	\$0	\$16,000	\$20/gal X 800 gallons (4:1 HFI)
Energy			SHA Uses Power on Demand 30 HP Hydraulic Power Unit that Runs Continuously SHA is 70% efficient (based on Kyntronics testing) HPU 22% is efficient (based on IFPE paper)
Energy Usage	\$966	\$9,664	Using \$0.10 per KWh (rates vary from - \$0.08 to \$0.19 per KWh)
Floor Space Utilization / Maintenance Time			SHA is All-In-One, no floor space required HPU requires space of 10'x10' = 100 Sq-Ft @ \$20 per sq-ft
Floor Space	\$0	\$2,000	
Maintenance Time	\$1,750	\$5,250	SHA @ 1 hr/week @ Labor \$35/hr HPU @ 3 hrs/week @ Labor \$35/hr
Human Factor			HPU oil leaks create hazardous conditions and safety risk SHA is totally sealed, no oil leak risk
Time off / Medical / Legal	\$0	\$2,000	Lost days + Medical costs + Legal costs
Machine Downtime / Product Scrap			SHA is totally sealed, no oil leak risk, minimal downtime risk.
80% of unplanned machine downtime is caused by contaminated lubricants	\$0	\$10,000	\$4k-\$6k average downtime costs per incident. Assuming two downtime events.
Product Spoilage	\$0	\$10,000	1% scrap from product contamination due to leaky connections
Annual Operating Costs	\$2,716	\$85,314	An \$82,598 Annual Savings Opportunity!

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SCAN ME



Traditional HPU with Hydraulic Cylinder



Kyntronics All-In-One SMART Electro-Hydraulic Actuator (SHA)



References:

The basis for several of the assumptions used in the previous annual operating cost table originate from Fluid Power Industry published statistics and sources noted below:

Drops - lost gallons / year

- Nearly 100 million gallons of hydraulic fluid is lost every year in North America
- Recent environmental studies show that a portion of this leaked fluid ends up in ground water, rivers, lakes, and in the soil itself, causing untold damage to the environment, fish and wildlife.



Energy Usage

- Studies reveal that efficiencies of industrial hydraulic systems range from <9% to 60% efficient, and average efficiency was 22%.



Oil Consumption / HFI - Costs

- A one drop / second hydraulic leak equates to nearly 405 gallons / year in lost fluid.
- The Average Hydraulic Fluid Index (HFI) [total fluid used / total site capacity] is ~4:1 in the US. Hydraulic Fluid should be changed every 6 months – used oil must be carefully disposed of.
- Every day in North America, a machine operator or technician slips and falls on the remnants of a leaking hydraulic system. Costs include: lost wages, medical expenses, workman's compensation claims, legal costs.



Cost-of-Downtime

- 80% of hydraulic equipment stoppages and component failures are caused by contaminated lubricants.
- At \$4,000 to \$6,000 per minute cost for downtime, this equates to nearly \$10 billion lost per year in unplanned downtime.



Until now, there were Two Actuation Options: Electro-Mechanical Actuators (EMAs) or Hydraulics

What if . . . You could combine the benefits of both . . .

And . . . Eliminate their challenges?

EMA Benefits

- Power on Demand
- Precisely Control in 4 Quadrants
- Clean Operation – No Leaks
- Fieldbus
- Diagnostics



Hydraulic Benefits

- Robust – Proven Technology
- High Force Density
- Shock Load and Side Load Tolerant
- Fluid Characteristics
- Cost Effective
- Ingress Protection



EMA Challenges

- Metal-to-Metal Wear
- Susceptible to Damage from Shock Loads and Side Loads
- Requires Regular Maintenance / Lubrication
- Expensive and Large at Higher Load Ratings
- Backlash and Back-drivable



Hydraulic Challenges

- Environmentally Unfriendly
- Prone to Leaks – Messy
- Energy Inefficient & Noisy
- Difficult to Control
- HPUs Take Up Valuable Space
- Require Excessive Maintenance
- High Operating Costs



The Kyntronics SMART Electro-Hydraulic Actuator Accomplishes All This and More!

The SHA Supports Sustainable Manufacturing by reducing environmental risk, lowering energy consumption, improving employee safety, and reducing operating expenses

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Contact Kyntronics to find out how much you can save by converting from traditional hydraulics to the All-In-One SHA

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