

How To Test For Leaks

Once installed any shift system should be tested for leaks. Small/slow leaks in the pneumatic lines will reduce system efficiency and increase air usage and therefore the time the compressor is required to run to maintain shift system pressure within the window for best performance.

Initial Leak Test

Power on the system and connect to the GCU or ECU with transmission control strategies depending on what provides the control for your system. Locate the system pressure display and allow the compressor to run until it turns off having achieved circa 9bar. Monitor the time it takes for the system pressure to drop 1 bar from the point the compressor turned off. If it takes more than 60 seconds for the system to drop 1 bar pressure it can be considered to be acceptable and ready for use. If the system drops more than 1 bar in 60 seconds proceed to the system leak test section below.

System Leak Test

Using a soapy water solution or a gas test / leak detector aerosol start at the compressor outlet fitting and work through the system to the actuators until you locate the leak, usually this will be at a fitting and as a result of either an incorrectly built air hose or the fitting not being sufficiently tight. Do not overtighten fittings in an attempt to seal the leak, if the fitting is in good order it will seal well at the manufacturers recommended tightening torque. Overtightening fittings can damage the fitting or the component.

