A breath of fresh air

Compressor technology is making mining safer for the environment. Jamie Wade writes for Australian Mining.

Efficiency and sensitivity to the environment is motivating Australian manufacturers to engineer and build the latest compressors.

Best known for mobile lighting technology, Perth-based company AllightSykes has brought together local and global expertise to deliver compressors that are more compact, quiet, cheaper to run and easier to maintain.

"Despite being compact and quiet, these units can easily match the output and reliability standards expected of the market's more mature brands," Paul Sowerby, director of worldwide sales for AllightSykes told *Australian Mining*.

The company's flagship Italianmade and designed rotary screw compressors have a direct transmission without step-up gearboxes. This limits wear and tear on the screw set, reduces noise and avoids overheating.

An asymmetric oil injection profile is created via high pressure

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grinding to deliver high compression performance with minimal energy dispersion.

Has an asymetric oil injection profile.

Integral to the compressors are Perkins engines known for their quiet, clean and fuel efficient operation. A protection device allows for cold starting diesel and a transparent plastic fuel tank allows for easy level checking; there's also a wider fuel inlet.

Tough, resilient mudguards are

standard and a quick lift canopy allows for fast and fuss-free maintenance and there's a clever emergency stop facility.

Towing is also easier with a sprung axle and articulated drawbar.

The latest in portable compressor technology, says Paul, is ideal for mine operators requiring reliable and constant airflow to power multiple breakers, hammers and blasters.

"The Perkins engines are not only reliable, efficient and durable, but they raise

the bar in environmental standards with less noise and a

cleaner operation," he said.

"The engines that comply with emissions legislation tend to use less oil, with service intervals of up to 500 hours."

