What is a Pneumatic Lubricator?
A lubricator for a pneumatic system provides lubrication to internal working parts of pneumatic tools and components, including actuating cylinders, valves and motors. The device injects a stream of oil into the airline, ensuring they perform at the optimum level at all times. MGA Controls have provided information regarding the pneumatic lubricator function.

What are the purposes of a lubrication system?
The lubricator is an important element of the pneumatic device as it supplies lubrication to different machines. Pneumatic lubricators are present on:

- Air motors
- Cylinders
- Gears
- Sliding Surfaces

By having a lubrication system, machinery can benefit from lower friction, smoother operation and speed control which in turn helps the system run efficiently and lowers the running and maintenance costs.

How does a pneumatic lubricator work?
The lubricator valve operation comprises of a pneumatic device, known as the pneumatic lubricator, injecting a stream of oil or air into an airline in order to provide lubrication to the internal working parts of a pneumatic tool. The pneumatic lubricator works by compressed air entering an inlet port and passing over a needle valve, which is attached to a pick-up tube. The tube is submerged into a bowl which is filled with machine oil. The oil is pulled up through a suction method and then released as an aerosol at the outlet port, in turn, offering lubrication to working tools.

The function of a lubrication system means the positioning of the valve is extremely important. The needle valve should be situated in polycarbonate housing and should always be the last element. If these rules aren’t followed, the oily air can interfere with the pressure regulator, hindering its performance and in turn, no lubrication will be delivered to connected equipment, causing machine failure.

Choosing a fluid type for the effective function of a lubrication system
The pneumatic lubricator oil type will depend on the manufacturing guidelines. It is important that the only fluids used are the ones specified on the user guide as incompatible oil will affect the function of pneumatic machinery and erode the polycarbonate. MGA Controls can assist you when choosing the oil for your lubrication system.

Types of pneumatic lubricators
There are three types of pneumatic lubricators available:

- Sight Feed Lubricators
- Wick Feed Lubricators
- Single Port Lubricators

The right pneumatic lubricator will depend on the application you require and the type of liquid you wish to use. If you require more information on the types of pneumatic lubricators which are available, the technical team at MGA Controls will be able to help you.
MGA Controls are leading suppliers of control and instrumentation products to the process industry, we supply a wide range of air preparation and service products, including pneumatic lubricators. If you require more information or wish to request a quote, please contact us today by ringing +44 1704 898980 or email sales@mgacontrols.co.uk