K8V-Series – Closed Loop Swash Plate Type Axial Piston Pump, and M7V-Series – Swash Plate Type Axial Piston Motor

Introduction

Because of the remarkable economic growth in emerging countries, the demand for infrastructure construction is expanding globally. Accordingly, the demand for construction machinery essential for infrastructure construction, including wheel loaders and cranes, is increasing.

1 Background

Closed circuits, which are common in construction machinery, use only pumps and motors to circulate oil, which eliminates the need to install valves in circuits to change the oil flow direction. Therefore, unlike hydraulic pumps for open circuits, such as Kawasaki's K7V series and K3VLS series, hydraulic pumps for closed circuits need to have a mechanism to discharge oil in both directions. In addition, hydraulic motors that serve as actuators for cranes and other machines are required to be capable of rotating at higher speeds and rotating stably even at low speeds at the same time.

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Fig. 1 HST system

2 Specifications

Generally, hydraulic pump and motor sizes are classified according to the displacement, and the K8V series offers a lineup of three different sizes, while the M7V series offers a lineup of four different sizes. **Table 1** and **Table 2** shows the specifications of the K8V series and M7V series. Both series have high-pressure specifications for use with HST, and the M7V series has high-speed specifications.

3 Features

(1) K8V series

(i) High efficiency

The efficiency of the latest flagship pump is improved by performing prior verification, including accurately grasping the internal behavior and conditions, with advanced measurement technologies and simulations. This has allowed the K8V series to achieve the world's top-class efficiency. As shown in **Fig. 2**, the K8V series has high efficiency especially in the high-pressure region, higher than a competitor's pump by up to 4 points. (ii) Low noise

The noise level of the latest flagship pump is improved significantly by means of simulation and analysis, and the noise level of the K8V series has been improved in the same way. For example, the K8V125 has a sound power level of 89 dB (A) when the displacement is 125 cm³, the pressure is 15 MPa, and the pump speed is 2,100 min⁻¹, lower than a competitor's pump by 2 dB (A).

(2) M7V series

- (i) Improvement of maximum speed and stability at low speeds
 - In improving the maximum speed, particular attention

Model code		K8V71	K8V90	K8V125		
Displacement (cm ³)		71	90	130		
Pressure (MPa)	Rating	42				
	Мах	50				
Rated speed (min ⁻¹)		3, 300	3, 050	2, 850		

Table 1 Specifications of K8V series

Table 2 Specifications of M7V series

Model code		M7V85	M7V112	M7V160	M7V212	
Displacement (cm ³)	q max	68 to 88. 5	90 to 112	128 to 160	172 to 215	
	q min	0 to 68	0 to 90	0 to 128	0 to 172	
Pressure (MPa)	Rating	42				
	Max	50				
Maximum speed (rpm)	at q max	3, 900	3, 550	3, 100	2, 900	
	at q ₁ 0. 6q _{max}	6, 150	5, 600	4, 900	4, 600 0. 4q _{max}	



Fig. 2 Comparison of pump efficiency



Fig. 3 Torque fluctuations with the motor rotation

must be paid to the heat generated in sliding parts. Heat transfer and fluid analyses were used to design the M7V series to reduce heat generation and release heat, thereby doubling the maximum speed from the conventional model.

Stability at low speeds is affected by torque fluctuations, which depend on the number of pistons on the high-pressure side while the motor is rotating. The number of pistons has been increased from 9 to 11, thereby achieving stable rotation at low speeds with reduced torque fluctuations, as shown in **Fig. 3**.

(ii) Low noise

The M7V series uses a high-rigidity swash plate type design to reduce vibration, which causes noise, and adopts

noise reduction technology as the pump does, thereby achieving low noise. For example, the M7V85 has a sound power level of 89 dB (A) when the displacement is 51 cm³, the pressure is 10 MPa, and the motor speed is 6,150 min⁻¹, lower than a competitor's motor by 4 dB (A).

Conclusion

The K8V series and M7V series have been developed as the culmination of Kawasaki's latest technologies. We will be expanding the sales of these series so more and more customers will be able to benefit from their excellent features.

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