A "pump" check is a procedure used to find out if the discharge valves on a reciprocating compressor are sealing correctly. If they are not sealing the compressor will not pump efficiently (inefficient compressor). To do a pump check the compressor suction line is blanked off and the discharge is left open. The compressor is run for a brief period, usually not more than a minute. The suction pressure is noted before shutting off the compressor, it should be in a significant vacuum (20" or better). The proof of tight discharge valves comes after the compressor is off. There should be no rise in suction pressure. If there is a rise upwards to atmospheric it indicates the discharge valves are leaking by. If "inefficient" the valve plate is changed on semi-hermetics or in the case of a hermetic compressor it is changed out.