

Centrifugal Fan and Pump VFD Power Relationship

% Loading	Cycling % Power	VFD % Power
110%	100%	133%
100%	100%	103%
90%	90%	78%
80%	80%	56%
70%	70%	39%
60%	60%	26%
50%	50%	16%
40%	40%	9%
30%	30%	4%
20%	20%	1%
10%	10%	0%
0%	0%	0%

VFD inverter efficiency ~ 97%

**Affinity
Laws**

**Real
World**

Flow \propto Speed

Flow \propto Speed²

Flow \propto Speed³

%Power = (%Speed)^{2.7}

Calculating kWh

$$\text{Pump BHP} = \frac{\text{GPM} \times \text{Head (ft w.g.)}}{3960 \times \text{Efficiency}}$$

$$\text{Fan BHP} = \frac{\text{CFM} \times \text{SP (in. w.g.)}}{6356 \times \text{Efficiency}}$$

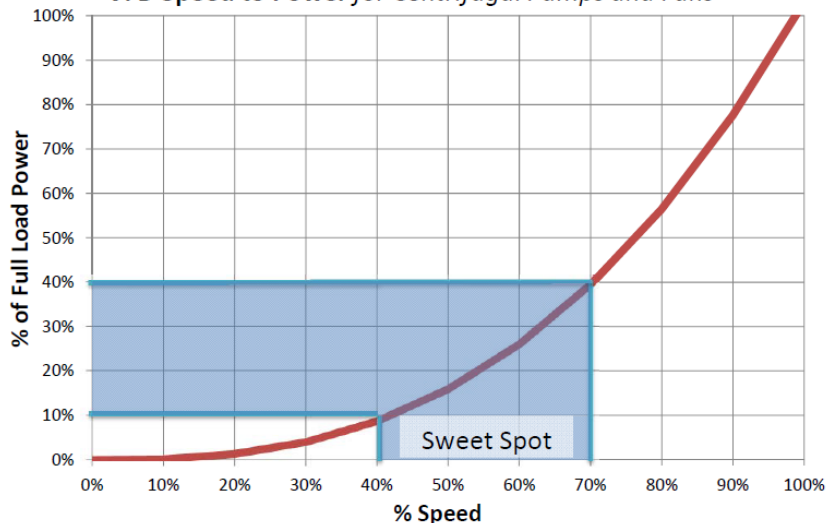
$$\text{kW} = \frac{\text{Brake Horsepower} \times 0.746}{\text{Motor Efficiency}}$$

$$\text{kW} = \frac{\text{Amp} \times \text{Volt} \times \sqrt{3} \times \text{Power Factor}}{1,000}$$

Consideration Criteria for VFD

- High Horse power (>15 hp)
- Long operating hours (>2000 hrs)
- Loads that could benefit from **soft start/shut-off capability**
- Loads with **variable torque requirements**

VFD Speed to Power for Centrifugal Pumps and Fans



* Avoid running VFDs fully loaded by setting maximum speed to $\leq 90\%$.

Conversion Factors

1 l/s = 15.85 GPM, 1 l/s = 2.12 CFM

1 psi = 2.31 ft w.g., 1 psi = 27.7 in w.g.

1 hp = 0.746 kW

Motor Efficiency and Power Factor

Motor Name Plate (HP)	Standard Efficiency	Premium Efficiency	Approx. Power Factor
1	74	82	0.62
5	84	90	0.70
10	87	91	0.73
25	90	93	0.77
50	91	94	0.80
100	92.2	94.7	0.82
250	93.3	95.2	0.85
500	94.0	95.5	0.91
1000	94.5	95.7	0.92

Power Transmission

Coupling Type	Efficiency
Gear Drives	55%-98%
Standard V-Belt	~92%
Notched V-Belt	~95%
Synchronous Belt	~98%
Direct Shaft Coupling	100%

**Notched
V-Belt**



**Standard
V-Belt**

