

The use of drawing numbers can be a real time saver when it comes to identifying drawings.

While working with clients in the manufacturing industry it quickly becomes obvious that a practical drawing number system is crucial to easily locate and identify drawings. This is especially so if a manufacturer has many products and clients, but it also a valid practice for a small businesses just starting out with the hope and desire for expansion.

Within this tip the reader will be introduced to the system that the fictitious mega-manufacturer HardRock Industries uses (compressor division in this case).

Actually, it is the system that Don Cheke was exposed to through a client that manufactures glass doors, such as those found on vending machines, grocery store freezers and coolers, deli cabinets and various other merchandisers. However, due to the confidential nature of this client's drawings the drawing number system will be presented using HardRock Industries comparable system.



COM-1100-103

There are several important factors that must be taken into consideration when devising a drawing number systems. For instance, how large is your company? How many products do you manufacture? Do you foresee significant expansion?

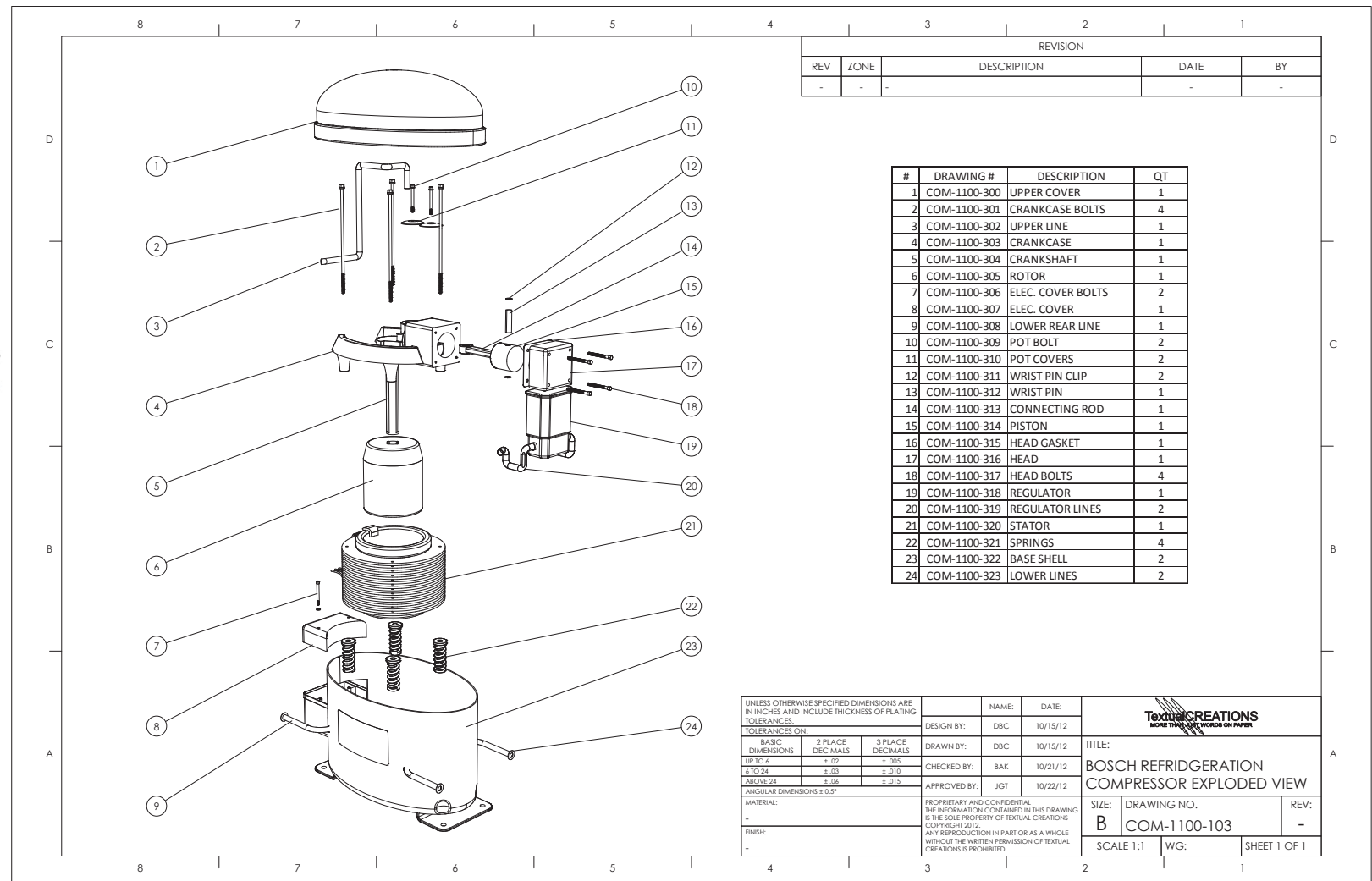
These questions, and possibly others, will determine the number of digits required in the numbering system itself.

HardRock Industries, Compressor Division uses a 3 Letter - 4 Number - 3 Number system.



- A. Three letter abbreviation for specific product design. In this case COM stands for Compressor.
These three letters may be replaced for other products or other uses, for instance:
LBR (Library for parts common to many products. This might include screws, fasteners, gaskets, and so forth).
MFG (Manufacturing for parts used in the factory (not for resale) such as jigs and gauges).
- B. Four number customer number. In this case:
1000 is assigned to Amana, 1100 to Bosch, 1200 to Frigidaire, etc. (No particular logic, just sequential)
- C. Three digit number that varies depending on what type of drawing it is. In the case of HardRock Industries:
001 to 099 is assigned to Development drawings.
100 to 199 is assigned to Assembly and Layout drawings.
200 to 299 is assigned to Fabrication drawings.
300 - 399 is assigned to Part drawings.
- D. Revision Letter, changes as revisions are made and a new drawing issued.
- E. Descriptor. For a long time a descriptor was not used. However, it was added since those without intimate knowledge of the system found it hard to locate drawings without referring to the drawing log and memorizing it.

Here is an exploded view drawing for a Bosch compressor (1100). It is a layout drawing so uses a 100 series number



It is vital to maintain a drawing log and to keep it up to date. There are many Product Data Management (PDM) systems available, but HardRock Industries chooses to do this manually, utilizing a Librarian to log drawings and distribute drawing numbers as required.

Take some time to experiment to see what numbering system would be suitable for your own business needs.

Microsoft Excel - COM-100-103 Bosch Compressor BOM.xlsx					
	A	B	C	D	E
1	Updated Oct. 15, 2012 DBC	COM Drawing Log With Revisions, Drawing Sizes and Descriptions			
2	0 - 99 - DEVELOPMENT & PRE-RELEASE DRAWINGS				
3	100 - LAYOUT & MAIN ASSEMBLY DRAWINGS				
4	200 - SUBASSEMBLY & FABRICATION DRAWINGS				
5	300 - INDIVIDUAL COMPONENT & EXTRUSION DRAWINGS				
6	400 - PURCHASED COMPONENT DRAWING				
7	500 - TOOLS & JIGS				
8	See Sheet 2 for COM Directory ID List and Product Status				
9	See Sheet 3 for CoolBreeze™ Product Identification Matrix				
10	See Sheet 4 for Library Log				
11	See Sheet 5 for Manufacturing Log				
12	Project No.	Dwg.#	Rev.	Dwg. Size	TITLE
13	COM-1100 Bosch Cool Breeze				
14	COM-1100	100	-	B	BOSCH REFRIGERATION COMPRESSOR OVERVIEW
15	COM-1100	101	-	B	BOSCH REFRIGERATION COMPRESSOR GEN. DIMENSIONS
16	COM-1100	102	-	B	BOSCH REFRIGERATION COMPRESSOR INSTALLATION
17	COM-1100	103	-	B	BOSCH REFRIGERATION COMPRESSOR EXPLODED VIEW
18	COM-1100	200	-	C	BASE SHELL LINE HOLES
19	COM-1100	300	-	B	UPPER COVER
20	COM-1100	301	-	B	CRANKCASE BOLTS
21	COM-1100	302	-	B	UPPER LINE
22	COM-1100	303	-	B	CRANKCASE
23	COM-1100	304	-	B	CRANKSHAFT
24	COM-1100	305	-	B	ROTOR
25	COM-1100	306	-	B	ELEC. COVER BOLTS
26	COM-1100	307	-	B	ELEC. COVER
27	COM-1100	308	-	B	LOWER REAR LINE
28	COM-1100	309	-	B	POT BOLT
29	COM-1100	310	-	B	POT COVERS
30	COM-1100	311	-	B	WRIST PIN CLIP
31	COM-1100	312	-	B	WRIST PIN
32	COM-1100	313	-	B	CONNECTING ROD
33	COM-1100	314	-	B	PISTON
34	COM-1100	315	-	B	HEAD GASKET
35	COM-1100	316	-	B	HEAD
36	COM-1100	317	-	B	HEAD BOLTS

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