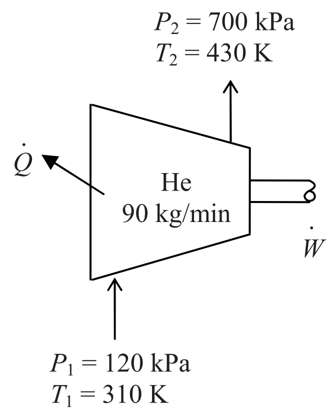
6-58 Helium is compressed by a compressor. For a mass flow rate of 90 kg/min, the power input required is to be determined.

Assumptions **1** This is a steady-flow process since there is no change with time. **2** Kinetic and potential energy changes are negligible. **3** Helium is an ideal gas with constant specific heats.

Properties The constant pressure specific heat of helium is c_p = 5.1926 kJ/kg·K (Table A-2a).

Analysis There is only one inlet and one exit, and thus $\dot{m}_1 = \dot{m}_2 = \dot{m}$.

We take the compressor as the system, which is a control volume since mass crosses the boundary. The energy balance for this steady-flow system can be expressed in the rate form as



$$\underbrace{\dot{E}_{in} - \dot{E}_{out}}_{\text{Rate of net energy transfer by heat, work, and mass}} = \underbrace{\Delta \dot{E}_{system}^{\nearrow 0 \text{ (steady)}}}_{\text{Rate of change in internal, kinetic, potential, etc. energies}} = 0$$

$$\dot{E}_{in} = \dot{E}_{out}$$

$$\dot{W}_{in} + \dot{m}h_1 = \dot{Q}_{out} + \dot{m}h_2 \quad \text{(since } \Delta ke \cong \Delta pe \cong 0\text{)}$$

$$\dot{W}_{in} - \dot{Q}_{out} = \dot{m}(h_2 - h_1) = \dot{m}c_p(T_2 - T_1)$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{W}_{in} &= \dot{Q}_{out} + \dot{m}c_p(T_2 - T_1) \\ &= (90/60 \text{ kg/s})(20 \text{ kJ/kg}) + (90/60 \text{ kg/s})(5.1926 \text{ kJ/kg} \cdot \text{K})(430 - 310)\text{K} \\ &= \mathbf{965\ kW}\end{aligned}$$