

Tubular Membranes

Tubular membranes are particularly suited to fluids with high viscosity and/or suspended solids, as their wide flow paths make them highly resistant to blocking. Pre-treatment requirements are minimal, and are often completely avoided – a benefit that makes membranes the most cost effective choice for many small systems.

Membrane Development

Our development chemists continuously refine product performance to expand our range, extending the benefits to users to offer. Our in-house development and manufacturing capability enables us to provide customised membranes tailored for specific applications. This can prove highly beneficial where short process development times are the key. New developments include hydrophilic membranes for lower fouling, improved selectivity, increased solvent, acid and base resistance, improved flux and strengthened membrane supports.

Proprietary Tubular Membranes

All membranes are produced “in-house” in our purpose-built facility, operating under the international Quality Assurance standard ISO 9001:2015. The table (opposite) provides a technical summary of our range of modules which are fully compatible with our tubular membranes.

Cleaning

The choice of cleaning chemicals and cleaning frequency depend upon the nature of the process and the membrane type. Acids, Alkalis and Detergents are used as required. Typical cleaning procedures are indicated on the below table. The C10 type applications can also be cleaned mechanically using an automated “pigging” process that uses foam balls and can significantly reduce the need for cleaning chemicals.

| Membrane Type | Chemical | Concentration | Temp °C |
|--|---|---------------|----------|
| AFC99 | Alkaline Detergent Nitric Acid | 0.25% 0.3% | 50 50 |
| AFCC80, 40,30 | Enzyme Nitric Acid | 0.5% 0.3% | 45 45 |
| CA/AN | Enzyme Nitric Acid | 0.5% pH2.0 | 30 30 |
| ES/PU/FP FPN (Excluding FPA/FPT/ LPA/ LMA) | Chlorinated Alkaline detergent Nitric acid | 1% 0.3% | 45 45 |

Applications

Applications where tubular membranes have been selected as the best process solution include:

- Wood pulp bleach wastewater separation
- Lignosulphonate fractionation
- Side-stream (external) membrane bioreactors (MBRs)
- Landfill leachate treatment
- Metal finishing wastewater separation
- Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient manufacture
- Manufacture of fine chemicals (various)
- Dairy applications (e.g. milk concentration)
- Fruit juice clarification
- Drinking water treatment
- Textile dye processing (e.g. desalting)
- Textile process wastewater treatment/reuse
- Clean In Place (CIP) solution recovery
- Product recovery
- Acid purification
- Process R & D (academic and industrial)

Our range of over 22 tubular membranes incorporates products that are suitable for all these applications. The variety of materials employed provides a range of chemical compatibilities, with their exhaustive development delivering unmatched performance. The range also incorporates products with UK Drinking Water Inspectorate approval, proving their suitability for municipal applications.

PCI Membranes supplies its products as components to OEM systems builders, directly to end users (either as components or as complete membrane solutions), and as spares for our own and others' tubular membrane systems.

Quality Assurance

Applications where tubular membranes have PCI Membranes designs, manufactures and provides supply and servicing of equipment for liquid separation.

to the quality standard: BS EN ISO 9001:2015 Destructive testing is carried out on samples of every membrane batch, as well as 100% performance testing of all RO and NF membranes. Finished membranes are preserved and stored under carefully controlled conditions to prevent deterioration during storage. A computerised records and bar-coding system provides for complete traceability of each membrane produced, and facilitates traceability to confirm that the membranes meet PCI Membranes high quality standards.

PCI Membrane products are offered with guarantees commensurate with their application and conditions of use. Additionally our experience of delivering membrane solutions allows us to provide extensive process performance guarantees when offering complete systems.

| Type | Application | Length | Diameter | Membrane Area | Standard Options/Comments |
|------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--|---|
| A5 | UF | 3.1m 3.7m | 83mm 83mm | 4.0m ² 4.75m ² | Shroud AISI 316 stainless steel |
| A19 | UF | 3.1m 3.7m | 83mm 83mm | 2.1m ² 2.5m ² | Shroud AISI 316 stainless steel |
| A37 | UF | 3.7m | 119mm | 5.2m ² | Shroud AISI 316 stainless steel |
| B1 Parallel Flow | UF | 1.2m 2.4m 3.7m | 100mm 100mm 100mm | 0.9m ² 1.7m ² 2.6m ² | For highly viscous materials, and low pressure drop |
| B1 Twin-Entry | UF | 1.2m 2.4m 3.7m | 100mm 100mm 100mm | 0.9m ² 1.7m ² 2.6m ² | End-caps in epoxy or AISI 316 stainless steel. Shroud AISI 316 stainless steel |
| B1 Series Flow | RO, NF, UF | 1.2m 2.4m 3.7m | 100mm 100mm 100mm | 0.9m ² 1.7m ² 2.6m ² | End-caps in epoxy or AISI 316 stainless steel. Shroud AISI 316 |
| C10 | NF, UF | 0.9m 1.8m 3.7m | 210mm 210mm 210mm | 2.5m ² 5.0m ² 10.5m ² | DWI approved ABS wetted parts |
| Micro 240 | RO, NF, UF | .03m | 63.5mm | 0.024m ² | AISI 316 stainless steel module (2 membrane tubes). Membrane micropacks available. |
| Micro 960 | RO, NF, UF | 1.2m | 63.5mm | 0.096m ² | AISI 316 stainless steel module (2 membrane tubes). Membrane micropacks available. |
| Single Tube | RO, NF, UF | 1.2m | 12.5mm | 0.283m ² | For comparing up to 6 membrane types |

| Membrane Type | Material | pH Range | Operating Pressure | Operating Temperature | Nominal Retention Character ¹ | Generic Specification | Hydrophilicity ² | Solvent Resistance ³ | Applicable Module/s |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| AFC99 | Polyamide Film | 1.5-12 | 64 ⁵ | 80°C | 99% NaCl | RO | 3 | ++ | B1 |
| AFC80 | Polyamide Film | 1.5-10.5 | 60 | 70°C | 80% NaCl | RO | 4 | ++ | B1 |
| AFC40 | Polyamide Film | 1.5-9.5 | 60 | 60°C | 60% CaCl ₂ | NF | 4 | ++ | B1 |
| AFC30 | Polyamide Film | 1.5-9.5 | 60 | 60°C | 75% CaCl ₂ | NF | 4 | ++ | B1/C10 |
| CA202 | Cellulose Acetate | 2-7.25 | 25 | 30°C | 2,000 MW | UF | 5 | + | B1/C10 |
| ESP04 | Modified PES | 1-14 | 30 | 65°C | 4,000 MW | UF | 2 | ++ | B1 |
| ES404 | Polyethersulphone | 1.5-12 | 30 | 80°C | 4,000 MW | UF | 2 | ++ | B1/C10 |
| EM006 | Modified PES | 1.5-12 | 30 | 80°C | 6,000 MW | UF | 4 | ++ | B1 |
| PU608 | Polysulphone | 1.5-12 | 30 | 80°C | 8,000 MW | UF | 2 | ++ | B1 |
| ES209 | Polyethersulphone | 1.5-12 | 30 | 80°C | 9,000 MW | UF | 2 | ++ | B1 |
| PU120 | Polysulphone | 1.5-12 | 15 | 80°C | 20,000 MW | UF | 2 | ++ | B1 |
| FPT020 | PVDF | 1.5-10.5 | 10 | 60°C | 20,000 MW | UF | 1 | +++ | A5 |
| FPA020 | PVDF | 1.5-10.5 | 7 | 60°C | 20,000 MW | UF | 1 | +++ | A19/A37 |
| AN620 | Polyacrylonitrile | 2-10 | 10 | 60°C | 25,000 MW | UF | 5 | +++ | B1 |
| ES625 | Polyethersulphone | 1.5-12 | 15 | 80°C | 25,000 MW | UF | 2 | ++ | B1 |
| FPT10 | PVDF | 1.5-10.5 | 10 | 60°C | 100,000 MW | UF | 1 | +++ | A5 |
| FPA10 | PVDF | 1.5-10.5 | 7 | 60°C | 100,000 MW | UF | 1 | +++ | A19/A37 |
| FP100 | PVDF | 1.5-12 | 10 | 80°C | 100,000 MW | UF | 1 | +++ | B1 |
| FPT20 | PVDF | 1.5-10.5 | 10 | 60°C | 200,000 MW | UF | 1 | +++ | A5 |
| FPA20 | PVDF | 1.5-10.5 | 7 | 60°C | 200,000 MW | UF | 1 | +++ | A19/A37 |
| FP200 | PVDF | 1.5-12 | 10 | 80°C | 200,000 MW | UF | 1 | +++ | B1 |
| FPN200 ⁶ | PVDF | 1.5-12 | 10 | 65°C | 200,000 MW | UF | 1 | +++ | B1 |
| LPA450 | PVDF | 1.5-10.5 | 7 | 60°C | 450,000 MW | UF | 1 | +++ | A19/A37 |
| LMA02 | PVDF | 1.5-10.5 | 7 | 60°C | 0.2µm | MF | 1 | +++ | A19/A37 |