

Potential for NF in the Future of Desalination

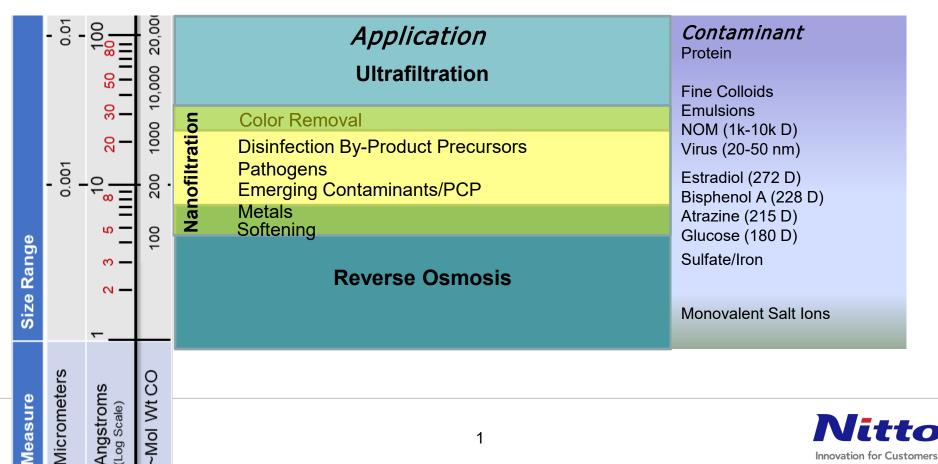
Craig R. Bartels, PhD Hydranautics

SIWW 2022



NF Membranes Have Approximately 150-3000 MWCO and are Ion Selective







Measure

(Log Scale)

~Mol Wt

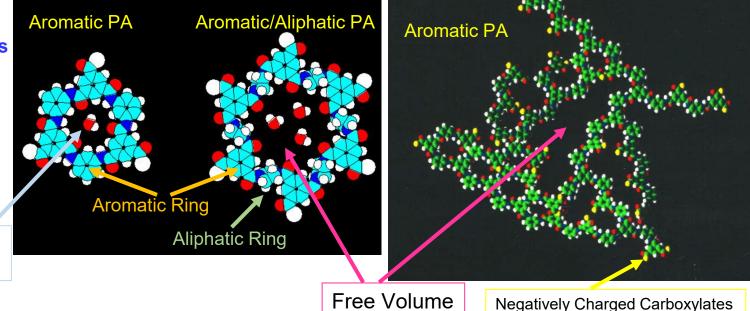
Source of Ion Selective Properties: Polyamide NF



Negative Charge

- Size of Macro Cycles
- Packing Geometry
- Anion Selective

Hydrogen Bonded Water Molecule

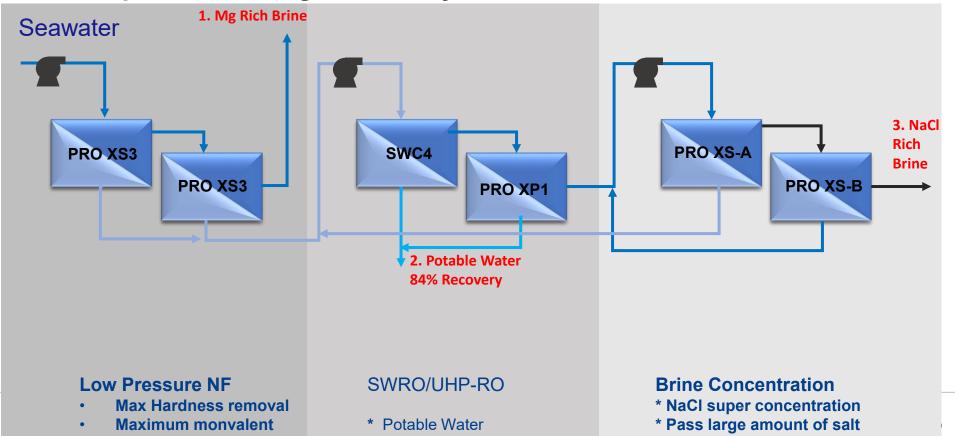




Value of Ion Selectivity & Controlled Rejection: Example of Ultra-High Recovery with NF, RO & BCM

passage





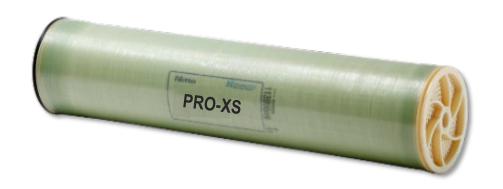
New, High Mg Rejection NF Membrane



PRO-XS-X SPECIFICATION

Specified Performance & General Product Description

Salt rejection	99.8%			
Permeate flow	9,000 gpd (37.9 m ³ /d)			
@ 110 psi (7.6bar), 2,000 mg/l MgSO ₄ , 15% Rec				



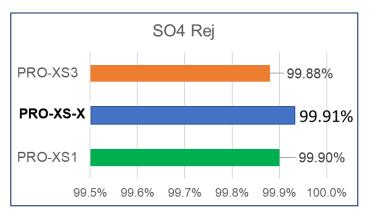
Details

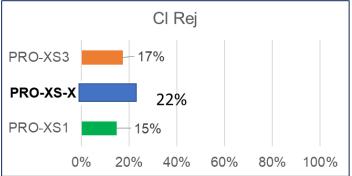
Memb Area	Max Press*	Feed Spacer	Temperature
400 ft ² (37.2 m ²)	1200 psi (82.7 bar)	34 mil	See Chart

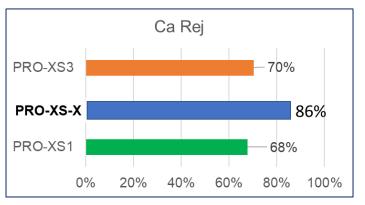


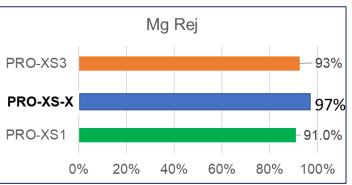
Comparative Performance of PRO XS Products











Lab Testing on Synthetic Seawater: 15 gfd flux, 15% recovery, 25 C



New, Xtra Concentration (XC) Membranes



PRO-XC SPECIFICATION

Specified Performance & General Product Description

	XC-A	хс-в	XC-C		
Salt rejection (%)	93	88	96		
Perm flow (gpd)	12,000	15,000	9,000		
(m³/d)	45.5	56.8	34.1		
400 ft² (37.2 m²) area, 34 mil feed spacer					

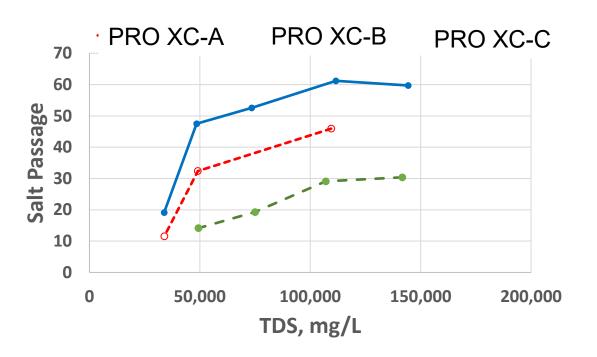


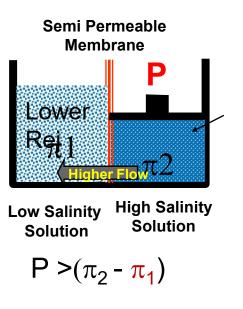
Test Conditions					
Feed NaCl	Applied pressure	Permeate Recovery rate	Temperature	Feed pH	
32,000 ppm	600 psi (41 bar)	10%	25° C (77° F)	6.5 – 7.0	



New, Brine Concentration Membranes





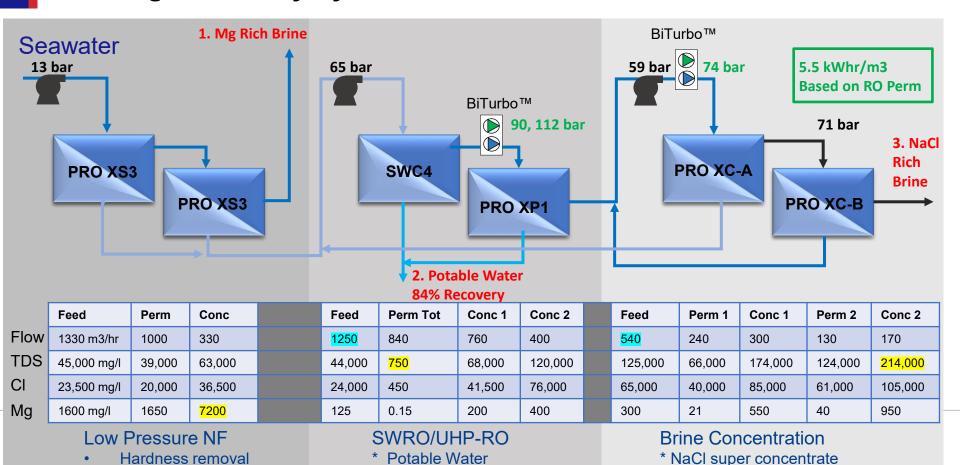


- \triangleright Lower rejection membranes increases π_1 , which decreases applied Press
- High TDS Permeate is recycled to preceding stages



Ultra-High Recovery System: NF, RO & BCM





Commercial Potential



- Plans for a commercial plant in 2025
- 2 Million tons per year of dry salt

For a 100k m3/d plant:

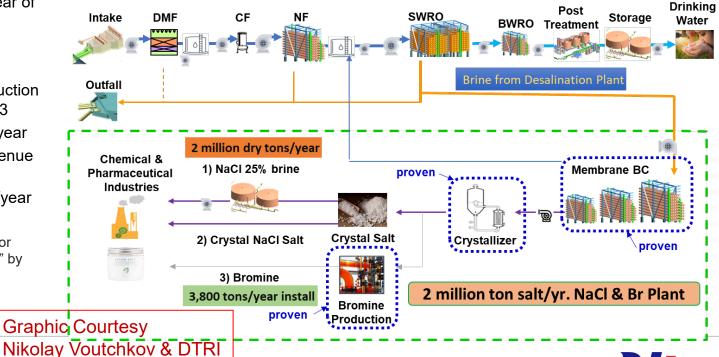
- Annual Water Production Cost @ US\$0.60/m3
- > =US\$22 million/year
- NaCl Salt Sale Revenue@ US\$65/dry ton
- = US\$65 million/year

"Overview of DTRI System for Brine Mining of NaCl and Br" by Nikolay Voutchkov Ocean Brine Mining Conf

Al Khobar, KSA

Mar 21-23

New 1 million m³/day Jubail SWRO Desalination Plant (168,200 m³/day Dedicated Capacity to Produce the Needed Brine)





Conclusions



- NF Membranes will play a much bigger role for the treatment of seawater in the future
- Two very different types of NF characteristics have been developed for seawater treatment
 - ➤ High divalent rejection, High monovalent passage
 - > High pressure NF that pass variable amounts of monovalent salts
- Testing has shown these two types of NF combined with SWRO and UHPRO can achieve TDS values of 250,000 mg/l, making the concentrate ideal for chlor alkali feedstock
- Plans are in place of commercialization of this technology

