

## Desalination Technologies (I)

Ethiopia Tzen  
 Wind Energy Department  
 Email: etzen@cres.gr

Part of the presentation is prepared with the contribution of ProDes partners

## The Water

### The Need for Water Demand Management

## Global Water Distribution

Throughout history, water has been the essential element for economic and social development and for the stability of cultures and civilization.

**Water Natural Resources**

Fresh Water (Surface, Ground Water) 2.5%

Ocean Water 97.5%

Lakes & river storage

Ground water

Glaciers & permanent snow cover

## Water Conservation & Demand Management

- Water conservation** measurements have not been widely applied in most countries of the region.
- Reducing loss of water both in urban and irrigation networks can provide from 30-50% saving in irrigation water and from 28-50% in urban water.
- Water demand management** is on the policy agenda of most countries
- Introduction of **water saving devices** is important. These are:
  - use of incentives (metering, pricing, subsidies and penalties)
  - information (extension services and education campaigns)
  - regulatory measures (control of water and quotas)

**Non-conventional Water Resources**

- **Wastewater reuse** (water for gardens, irrigation, etc)
- **Desalination** (for potable and distillate water production)

## Availability of Freshwater in 2000

Average annual per capita availability of freshwater

m<sup>3</sup>/capita/year

0-1000

50,000-605,000

## Projections of Water Availability for 2025

Projections for 2025

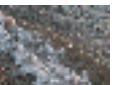
0-1000

50,000-605,000

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## The Water Problem

- Water in most countries and regions of the Mediterranean is a limiting factor
- The level of exploitation of water resources is generally high in most countries and pressure over water resources is increasing.
- Exploitation ratios over 50%, or even 100% in many parts of Mediterranean countries (Egypt, Palestinian Authority, Libya, Israel, Malta)
- Exploitable amounts of water are decreasing, and may become scarce in time or region





Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Factors increase the water consumption are:

- Growing of population
- Growing of industry
- Tourism
- Agriculture / Irrigation needs

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Desalination Technology



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## What is Desalination ?

Desalination is the removal of dissolved salts and other impurities from salt water.

A desalination plant turns salt water (brackish or seawater) into fresh water (potable or distillate water).

### Water Classification

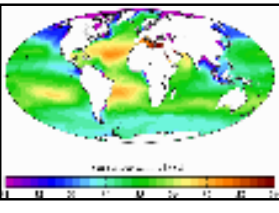
Water Source	Approximate Salt Concentration (mg/lit)
<b>Brackish water</b>	>1000, high brackish up to 11.000
<b>Seawater</b>	~35.000
Atlantic Ocean	35.000
Pacific Ocean	38.000
Persian Gulf	45.000
Dead Sea	~ 300.000

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

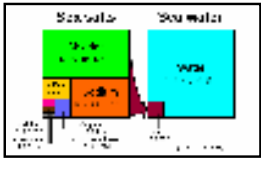
## Seawater chemistry

### Variation of salinities in the seas



Θαλασσινό Νερό	Χλωρούχα	Νάτριο	55%
Άλατα	3.5%	30.6%	
Νερό	96.5%	7.7%	
		1.2%	
		3.7%	
		1.1%	
		0.7%	

### Seawater composition



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Seawater Composition

Chemical Ion	Concentration ppm, mg/kg	Part of salinity %	mmol/ kg
Chloride Cl <sup>-</sup>	19345	55.03	546
Sodium Na <sup>+</sup>	10752	30.59	468
Sulfate SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	2701	7.68	28.1
Magnesium Mg <sup>2+</sup>	1295	3.68	53.3
Calcium Ca <sup>2+</sup>	416	1.18	10.4
Potassium K <sup>+</sup>	390	1.11	9.97
Bicarbonate HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	145	0.41	2.34
Bromide Br <sup>-</sup>	66	0.19	0.83
Borate BO <sub>3</sub> <sup>3-</sup>	27	0.08	0.46
Strontium Sr <sup>2+</sup>	13	0.04	0.091
Fluoride F <sup>-</sup>	1	0.003	0.068

It should be well observed that although salinity of seawater may well vary depending on the specific region of the world, the **percentage composition of seawater is essentially constant** throughout the world (i.e. the proportions of the major constituents are constant).

Seawater Temperatures  
0°C < T < 35-40°C

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Fresh water composition

WHO Standards for drinking Water	Contents in mg/l	
	min acceptable	max permissible
Total dissolved solids, TDS	500	1500
Cl	200	600
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	200	400
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	75	100
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	30	150
F <sup>-</sup>	0.7	1.7
NO <sub>3</sub>	<50	100
Cu <sup>2+</sup>	0.05	1.5
Fe <sup>2+</sup>	0.10	1.0
NaCl	250	-
pH	7.0-8.5	6.5-9.2

Intelligent Energy Europe [www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Desalination History

Intelligent Energy Europe [www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Short History of Desalination

- Throughout history, people have continually tried to treat salty water so that it could be used for drinking and agriculture. Seawater desalination was already used centuries ago on ships in order to produce fresh water by evaporation.
- The first big industrial desalination plants were built at the beginning of the 20th Century, the first probably being built in 1912 in Egypt with a 6 stages Multiple Effects Evaporator, producing about 75 m<sup>3</sup>/d of desalinated water.
- Further commercial development of land based seawater distillation units took place in the late 1950s, and initially relied on the technology developed for industrial evaporators (such as sugar concentrators) and for the shipboard distillation plants which were built during World War.

Intelligent Energy Europe [www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Desalination Development

- A dramatic increase in the desalination industry followed the petroleum industry boom in the '70s, in particular in the Gulf area where several thermal plants were built in order to satisfy the quickly growing water demand of the local population and given the large availability of thermal energy at very low cost.
- Mostly thermal-driven units were used to desalt seawater, but in the 1970s, commercial membrane processes such as Electrodialysis (ED) and Reverse Osmosis (RO) began to be used more extensively.
- By the 1980s, desalination technology was a fully commercial enterprise.
- By the 1990s, the use of desalting technologies for municipal water supplies had become commonplace.

Intelligent Energy Europe [www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

- Seawater desalination is the most preferred technology regarding the feed water type, mainly because of its availability.
- In 2007, the **total capacity** of installed **seawater desalination** plants worldwide was about **30 million m<sup>3</sup>/d** of which about 85 % is still in operation.
- This total capacity is continuously increasing with a very rapid trend.
- Desalting equipment is now used in over 100 countries, although 10 countries have about 75 percent of all the capacity.
- Almost **50%** of this desalting capacity is used to desalt seawater in the **Middle East and North Africa**.

Intelligent Energy Europe [www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## The Development of Desalination

Intelligent Energy Europe [www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

### Water Desalination Applications

- Domestic or Municipalities purposes
- Heavy Industry
- Pharmaceutical Industry
- Irrigation
- Marine
- Military
- Food & Dairy
- Home drinking water, etc.

[www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

### Desalination Processes

[www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

### Water Desalination Process

A wide variety of desalination technologies effectively remove salts from salty water (or extract fresh water from salty water), producing a water stream with a low concentration of salt (the product stream) and another with a high concentration of remaining salts (the brine or concentrate).

Most of these technologies rely on either distillation (thermal processes) or membranes to separate salts from the product water.

[www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

### Process classification

The commercially available desalination processes are divided in two main categories:

[www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

### Typical sequence of desalination treatment and distribution processes

WHO Report, 2007

[www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

### Other Desalination Processes

[www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)



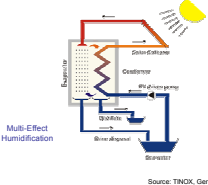
**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Other Desalination Processes

A number of other processes have been used to desalt saline water. Most of these processes have not achieved the level of commercial success that RO and distillation have.

These are:

- Freezing
- Humidification – Dehumidification
- Solar stills
- Membrane Distillation
- Dual purpose plants - Co-generation
- Hybrid



Multi-Effect Humidification

Source: TNOX, Germany

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Solar Stills

Solar distillation is a process in which the energy of the sun is directly used to evaporate fresh water from sea or brackish water. The process has been used for many years, usually for small scale applications.

Well designed units can produce around 2.5 l/m<sup>2</sup> per day with a thermal efficiency of 50%.




Solar stills are simple in operation and maintenance. The only maintenance required is the cleaning of the plant, especially of the glass roof.

Source: E. Tzan, CREES

Kastelorizo island, Greece

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Membrane Distillation


Membrane distillation (MD) combines the use of both thermal distillation and membranes and was introduced commercially on a small scale in the 1980s. The process relies primarily upon thermal evaporation and the use of membranes to pass vapor, which is then condensed to produce fresh water.

In the process, saline water is warmed to enhance vapor production, this vapor is exposed to a membrane that can pass water vapor but not liquid water. After the vapor passes through the membrane, it is condensed on a cooler surface to produce fresh water. In the liquid form, the fresh water cannot pass back through the membrane, so it is trapped and collected as the output of the plant.

Thus far, MD has been used only in a few facilities, since it requires more space, more pumping energy per unit of fresh water produced, and more money than other approaches. The main advantages of MD lie in its simplicity and the need for only small temperature differentials to operate.

MD is probably best suited for desalting saline water where inexpensive low-grade thermal energy (60-80°C) is available, such as from industries or solar collectors.

Commercially it is of little significance.



Once the vapor has passed through the hydrophobic membrane, it can be extracted or directly condensed in the channel on the other side of the membrane.

Source: Fraunhofer ISE, Germany

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### MD Module

#### Properties of MD-modules



- High thermal conductivity (50-60 W/mK)
- High thermal stability (up to 150°C)
- High mechanical strength (up to 10 MPa)
- High chemical resistance (up to 100% HCl)
- High thermal expansion coefficient (up to 10 mm/mK)
- High thermal conductivity (up to 10 W/mK)
- High thermal stability (up to 150°C)
- High mechanical strength (up to 10 MPa)
- High chemical resistance (up to 100% HCl)
- High thermal expansion coefficient (up to 10 mm/mK)

Source: Fraunhofer ISE, Germany

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Dual Purpose - Co-generation Plants


In some situations, it is possible to use energy so that more than one use can be obtained from it as the energy moves from a high level to an ambient level.

This occurs with co-generation where a single energy source can perform several different functions.

Certain types of desalination processes, especially the distillation process, can be structured to take advantage of a co-generation situation.

Most of the distillation plants installed in the Middle East and North Africa have operated under this principle since 1960s and are known in the field as dual purpose plants (water plus power). These units are built as part of a facility that produce both electric power and desalted seawater for use in a particular country.

The main advantage of a co-generation system is that it can significantly reduce the consumption of fuel when compared to the fuel needed for two separate plants. Since energy is a major operating cost in any desalination process, this can be an important economic benefit.

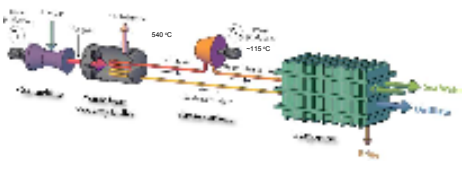


Source: SIDEM, France

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

One of the disadvantages is that the units are permanently connected together and, for the desalination plant to operate efficiently, the steam turbine must be operating. This permanent coupling can create a problem with water production when the demand for electricity is reduced or when the turbine or generator is down for repairs.



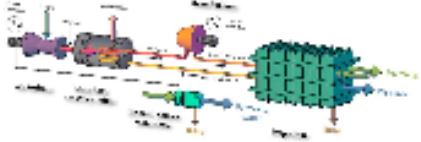
Source: SIDEM, France

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Hybrid Plants

Another method of reducing the overall costs of desalting can be the use of hybrid systems.  
Such hybrid systems are not applicable to most desalination installations, but can prove to be an economic benefit in some cases.  
A hybrid system is a treatment configuration made up of two or more desalination processes. An example is using both distillation and RO processes to desalt seawater at one facility and to combine the different characteristics of each process productively.



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Desalination Technologies (I)




Eftihia Tzen  
Wind Energy Sector  
Email: etzen@cres.gr

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Membrane Processes

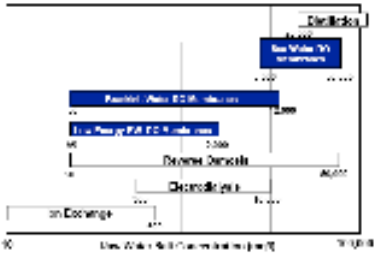
Electrodialysis  
Reverse Osmosis



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Major desalination processes



Source: DowFilmTec

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

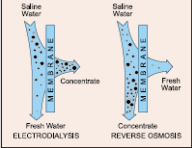
**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Membrane Processes

Membranes are used in two commercially important desalting processes: Electrodialysis (ED) and Reverse Osmosis (RO). Each process uses the ability of the membranes to differentiate and selectively separate salts and water.

ED is a **voltage driven** process and uses an electrical potential to move salts selectively through a membrane, leaving fresh water behind as product water.

RO is a **pressure-driven** process, with the pressure used for separation by allowing fresh water to move through a membrane, leaving the salts behind.



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Electrodialysis

### ED / EDR

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org


**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Electrodialysis Process Description

ED is an electrochemical process and a low cost method for the desalination of brackish water. Due to the dependency of the energy consumption on the feed water salt concentration, the ED process is not economically attractive for the desalination of sea water.

In Electrodialysis (ED) process, ions are transported through a membrane by an electrical field applied across the membrane. An ED unit consists of the following basic components:

- pre-treatment system
- membrane stack (κελί μεμβρανών)
- low pressure circulation pump
- power supply for direct current (rectifier)
- post-treatment



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

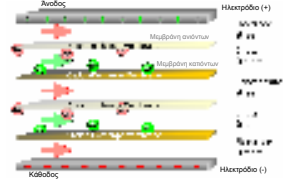
**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### The Principle of Electrodialysis

When electrodes are connected to an outside source of direct current like a battery and placed in a container of saline water, electrical current is carried through the solution, with the ions tending to migrate to the electrode with the opposite charge.

If between electrodes a pair of membranes (cell), anion permeable membrane followed by a cation permeable membrane is placed, then, a region of low salinity water (product water) will be created between the membranes.

Between each pair of membranes, a **spacer sheet** (διαχωριστής ή χώρισμα ποής) is placed in order to permit the water flow along the face of the membrane and to induce a degree of turbulence. One spacer provides a channel that carries feed (and product water) while the next carries brine. By this arrangement, concentrated and diluted solutions are created in the spaces between the alternating membranes.



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

An anion membrane, a diluting spacer, a cation membrane, and a concentrating spacer comprise a repeating unit called a "cell pair" (ζεύγος στοιχείων). ED cells can be stacked either horizontally or vertically.

Multiple cell pairs between an anode and a cathode comprise a "stack".

Several membrane pairs are used between a single pair of electrodes, forming an ED stack. Feed water passes simultaneously in parallel paths through all the cells, providing a continuous flow of product water and brine to come out from the stack. Stacks on commercial ED plants contain a large number, usually several hundred of cell pairs.



ED membrane spacer  
Στοιχείο Ηλεκτροδιάλυσης  
ED stack  
Κύμα Ηλεκτροδιάλυσης

Source: IOWCS

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### EDR Process

A modification to the basic Electrodialysis process is the **Reversal Electrodialysis, EDR**.

In this process the polarity of the electrodes changes periodically of time, reversing the flow through the membranes. Immediately following the reversal of polarity and flow, the product water is dumped until the stack and lines are flushed out and the desired water quality is restored.

This flush takes only 1 or 2 minutes, and then the unit can resume producing water.

The reversal process is useful in breaking up and flushing out scales, slimes, and other deposits in the cells before they can build up and create a problem.

Flushing allows the unit to operate with fewer pretreatment chemicals and minimizes membrane fouling.



Source: IOWCS, USA

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Output & Degree of Desalination

The rate of salt removal from the dilute streams is essentially controlled by Faraday's Law, being proportional to the amount of charge passing (i.e. current) per unit time.

For the situation comprising flow of a single-salt (NaCl) solution through one pair of perfect membranes and with no other current losses, the application of Faradays Law yields:

$$\Delta C = \frac{I}{F \cdot U_d \cdot n}$$

where

- $\Delta C$ : reduction of concentration of salt, mole/lit
- $I$ : current flowing, Amp
- $F$ : Faraday's constant, 96,500 Coulombs per equivalent
- $U_d$ : dilute stream flow rate, lit/sec
- $n$ : total number of positive or negative charges per molecule, for NaCl,  $n=1$ , for  $CaCl_2$ ,  $n=2$

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Electrodialysis Process Characteristics

ED has the following main **characteristics** that make it suitable for a number of applications:

- Capability for **high recovery** (more product and less brine)
- Energy usage that is **proportional to the salts removed**
- **Low chemical usage** for pretreatment

ED units are normally used to desalinate brackish water. The major energy requirement is the direct current used to separate the ionic substances in the membrane stack.

In general, the total energy consumption, under ambient temperature conditions and assuming product water of **500 ppm TDS**, would be around **1.5 and 4 kWh/m³** for a feed water of **1,500 to 3,500 ppm TDS**, respectively. Additionally, pumping energy requirements are minimum.

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Process and Cost analysis

### Investment costs for Electro Dialysis plants

Ref.	Investment cost [\$]	Plant capacity [m <sup>3</sup> /d]	Notes	Specific plant cost [\$/(m <sup>3</sup> /d)]
IDA World Inventory (2002)	3,490,000	3,788	USA (1999)	921
IDA World Inventory (2002)	40,870,000	45,420	USA (1994)	900
IDA World Inventory (2002)	620,000	600	Japan (2000)	1,033
IDA World Inventory (2002)	13,300,000	15,000	Iran (1994)	887
IDA World Inventory (2002)	7,320,000	8,000	Spain (1987)	915
IDA World Inventory (2002)	13,900,000	14,400	Italy (1992)	965

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Electrodialysis Reversal drinking water plant in Texas



Source: IONICS, USA

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

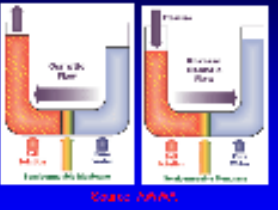
**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Reverse Osmosis RO

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Osmosis and Reverse Osmosis (RO)



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## RO Process

RO is the most widely used process for seawater desalination.

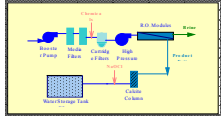

RO process involves the forced passage of water through a membrane against the natural osmotic pressure to accomplish separation of water and ions.

In practice, the saline feed water is pumped into a closed vessel where it is pressurized against the membrane.

The major energy required for desalting is for pressurizing the feed water.

As a portion of the water passes through the membrane, the remaining feed water increases in salt content.

At the same time, a portion of this feed water is discharged without passing through the membrane.

Source: METITO

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Osmotic Pressure

The osmotic pressure,  $P_{osm}$ , of a solution can be determined experimentally by measuring the concentration of dissolved salts in solution:

$$P_{osm} = 1.19(T + 273) \cdot \sum(m_i) \quad (1)$$

Where

- $P_{osm}$ : osmotic pressure in psi
- T: temperature, °C
- $\sum(m_i)$ : sum of molar concentration of all constituents in a solution\*

Salinity [g/l]	Molarity (mNaCl) [mol/l]	P @ T=25°C [atm]
5	0.086	4
10	0.172	8
35	0.603	29
50	0.862	42
70	1.207	59

An approximation of  $P_{osm}$  may be made by assuming that 1000 ppm TDS equals about 0.76 bar of osmotic pressure.

\*Molarity is defined as moles of solute per litre of solution

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Water Transport (1)

The rate of water passage through a semi-permeable membrane is:

$$Q_w = (\Delta P - \Delta P_{osm}) \cdot K_w \cdot \frac{S}{d} \quad (2)$$

Where

- $Q_w$ : rate of water flow through the membrane
- $\Delta P$ : hydraulic pressure differential across the membrane
- $\Delta P_{osm}$ : osmotic pressure differential across the membrane
- $K_w$ : membrane permeability coefficient for water
- $S$ : membrane area
- $d$ : membrane thickness

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Water Transport (2)

The above equation could be simplified by

$$Q_w = (NDP) \cdot A \quad (3)$$

Where

- $Q_w$ : rate of water flow through the membrane
- $NDP$ : net driving pressure
- $A$ : a constant for each membrane material type

The NDP required for any given membrane application in RO is a function of both the osmotic pressure change and hydraulic resistance

$$NDP = P_p + \Pi_p - \Pi_f - P_p \quad (4)$$

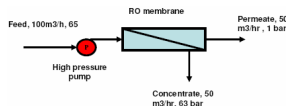
Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Reverse Osmosis Technology

Reverse osmosis **uses pressure** on solutions with concentrations of salt to force fresh water to move through a **semi-permeable** membrane, leaving the salts behind.

The amount of desalinated water that can be obtained (**recovery ratio**) ranges between **30% and 75%** of the volume of the input water, depending on the initial water quality, the quality of the product needed, and the technology and membranes involved.



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

Recovery ratio,  $R$ , is an important parameter in the design and operation of RO systems. Recovery ratio affects salt passage and product flow and is defined as follows:

$$R = \frac{Q_p}{Q_f} * 100 \% \quad (5)$$

$$Q_f = Q_p + Q_b \quad (6)$$

Where

- $Q_p$ : permeate flow rate
- $Q_f$ : feed water flow rate
- $Q_b$ : brine flow rate

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### RO Performance Parameters

Factors influence RO performance

The permeate flux and the salt rejection are the key performance parameters. Mainly they are influenced by variable parameters such as:

- Pressure
- Temperature
- Recovery
- Feed water salt concentration

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

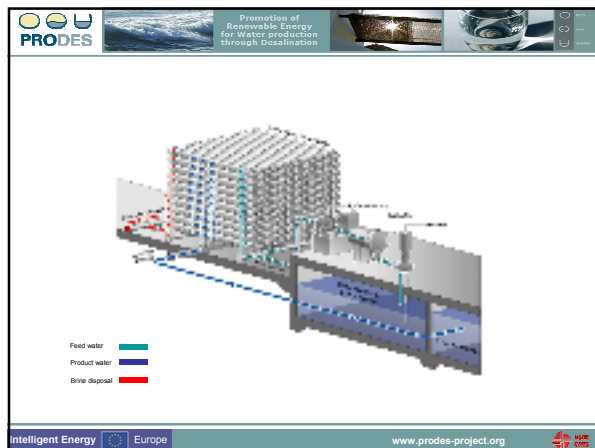
### Reverse Osmosis System Description (1)

An RO system is made up of the following basic components:

- Intake system
- Pretreatment system
- High-pressure pump
- Membrane assembly
- Post-treatment system
- Brine Disposal
- Instrumentation and control
- Electric system
- Membrane cleaning system



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org



### RO Description (2)

The pre-treated feed water is forced by a high-pressure pump to flow across the membrane surface. RO operating pressure typically varies from 14-25 bar for brackish water and from 55-80 bar for sea water.

Part of the feed water, the product or permeate water, passes through the membrane, removing from it the majority of the dissolved solids.

The post-treatment system consists of sterilisation, stabilisation and mineral enrichment of the product water.

### RO Description (3)

- Intake System (for seawater desalination)
  - Open intake
  - Beach wells
- Pretreatment Procedure
  - Filtration
  - Chemicals Dosing

Usually, the pretreatment consists of fine filtration and the addition of acid or other chemicals to inhibit precipitation and the growth of microorganisms. Purpose: reduction of contamination of the membrane surfaces (calcium precipitates, metal oxides, organics and biological matters).
- High-pressure pumping unit
 

The high-pressure pump supplies the pressure needed to enable the water to pass through the membrane and have the salts rejected.
- Energy recovery device
 

The pressure of the brine disposal is high and around 2-5 bar less the pressure of the feed water.

### RO Description (4)

- Post-treatment procedure
  - Enrichment (Ca, Mg)
  - Stabilization
  - Sterilization
- Brine disposal (outfall system)

Beach well in Spain

Brine outfall, Spain

Source: WWF, Spain

### Reverse Osmosis Membranes

Membrane system

Two types of RO membranes are used commercially. These are:


- the Spiral Wound (SW) membranes (σπιρωειδή περίελξη) and
- the Hollow Fiber (HF) membranes (κοίλων ινών)

SW and HF membranes are used to desalt both sea water and brackish water. The choice between the two is based on factors such as cost, feed water quality and product water capacity.


### Spiral wound membranes



Source: DowFilmTec






Promotion of  
Renewable Energy  
for Water production  
through Decentralisation




## RO Membrane Characteristics

TW30-4040





Hydramatic Corporation, 401 E. Franklin St., Springfield, MA 01102

TEL: 413/271-1111 FAX: 413/271-1112

WWW.HYDRAMATIC.COM

HYDRAMATIC CORPORATION


2001 Franklin St., Springfield, MA 01102

TEL: 413/271-1111 FAX: 413/271-1112

WWW.HYDRAMATIC.COM


Source: DOW/Film Tec


The diagram illustrates a two-pass Reverse Osmosis (RO) system. It begins with a 'Feed' stream entering a pump. The water then flows through a series of five stages, each labeled 'Permeate'. The 'Permeate pass one' stream is collected and then passes through a second pump and a second set of five stages, labeled 'Permeate pass two' and 'Concentrate pass one'. The final 'Permeate pass two' stream is the purified output.



**PRODES**

Promotion of  
Renewable Energy  
for Water production  
Through Desalination





## RO Membranes


All the major RO membrane manufacturers maintain computer programs to design and predict the performance of their membranes when placed in an RO desalination plant.

PRODES

Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Membrane Modeling Software

FILMTEC Modeling Software



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES

Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Energy Requirements (1)

The **energy requirements** of RO depend directly on the **concentration of salts** in the feed water and, to a lesser extent, on the **temperature of the feed water**.

Because **no heating or phase change** is necessary for this method of separation, the major use of **energy is for pressurizing** the feed water.

The **main load** of an RO unit is the **high-pressure pumps**. In seawater systems, usually the high pressure pumping unit provides the major contribution (over 85%) to the combined power consumption of the process.

Other loads are:

- Booster pump
- Dosing Pumps
- Membrane Cleaning Pump
- Permeate Pump


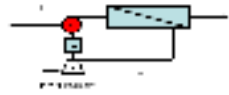
Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES

Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Energy Requirements (2)

The efficiencies of pumps, electric motors and power recovery devices have been improved considerably during the last few years. Due to these improvements, power consumption in the range of 3 – 4 kWh/m<sup>3</sup> is quite common in seawater desalination systems.

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES


Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Energy Recovery Devices

The fraction of power, recovered by the power recovery device, depends on the type and efficiency of the power recovery equipment used. Energy recovery devices connected to the concentrate stream as it leaves the pressure vessel at about 1 to 5 bar less than the applied pressure from the high-pressure pump.

Energy recovery devices are mechanical and generally consist of work or pressure exchangers, turbines, or pumps of some type that can convert the pressure difference to rotating or other types of energy that can be used to reduce the energy needs in the overall process. The most known ERD are:

- Pelton wheel
- Pressure Exchanger
- Work Exchanger
- Hydraulic Turbocharger

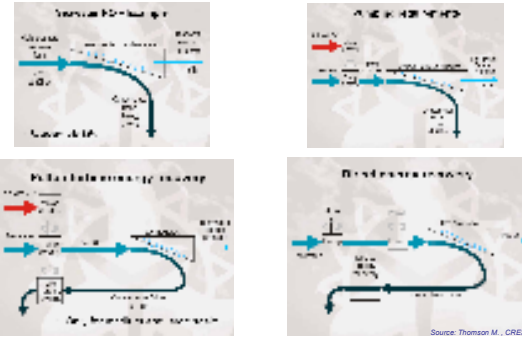


ERI, USA

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES

Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

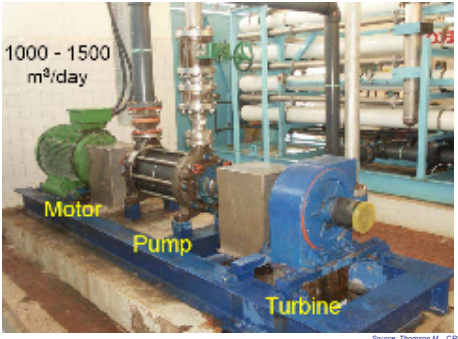


Source: Thomson M., CREST

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES

Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination



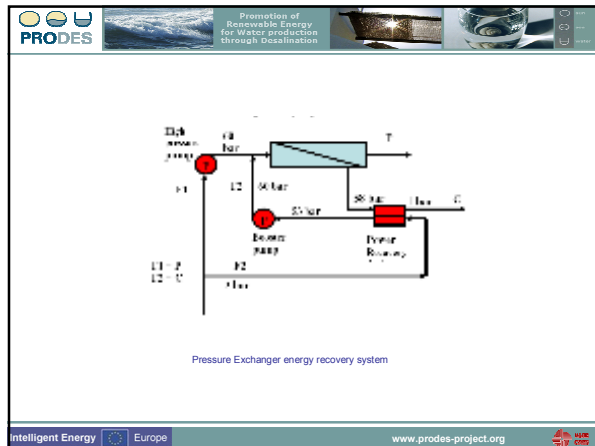
1000 - 1500 m<sup>3</sup>/day

Motor Pump Turbine

Source: Thomson M., CREST

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org





PRODES Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Energy Recovery Devices for small RO units

- PX Pressure Exchanger (ERI)
- Clark Pump (Spectra)
- Ultra Whisper (Sea Recovery) and
- Ingeniatec system

Very small energy recovery devices are not very efficient, improvement is required.

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Energy Requirements Modeling (1)

Booster pump: the power required to run a booster pump is given by

$$P_{bp} = \frac{\rho * g * h * Q_f}{\eta_p}$$

Where

- $\rho$ : Feed water density, at 25°C, kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- $h$ : Manometric height, m
- $g$ : Acceleration due to gravity, 9.81 m/sec<sup>2</sup>
- $Q_f$ : Feed flow rate, m<sup>3</sup>/sec
- $\eta_p$ : Pump efficiency, %

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Energy Requirements Modeling (2)

High-pressure pump : The power required to run a high-pressure pump is given by

$$P_{HPP} = \frac{P_f * Q_f}{\eta_p}$$

Where

- $P_{HPP}$ : Power of HPP, kW
- $P_f$ : Feed pressure, N/m<sup>2</sup>
- $Q_f$ : Feed flow rate, m<sup>3</sup>/sec
- $\eta_p$ : Pump efficiency, %

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Energy Requirements Modeling (3)

Energy Recovered: The energy recovered by an energy recovery device is:

$$ER = P_{r_b} * Q_b * \eta_i$$

Where

- $P_{r_b}$ : brine pressure, N/m<sup>2</sup>
- $Q_b$ : brine flow rate, m<sup>3</sup>/sec
- $\eta_i$ : turbine efficiency, %

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Energy Requirements Modeling (4)

Specific Energy Consumption: The energy consumption per m<sup>3</sup> of water produced

$$Sp.En.Con. (kWh / m^3) = \frac{(P_{bp} + P_{HPP} - ER) * 24 hours}{Q_p}$$

Where

- $P_{bp}$ : booster pump power, kW
- $P_{HPP}$ : high-pressure pump power, kW
- $ER$ : energy recovered, kW
- $Q_p$ : permeate flow rate, m<sup>3</sup>/day

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

Energy Recovery Scenario	Energy Recovery Potential (kWh/m³)	Energy Recovery Potential (kWh/m³)
No Energy Recovery	0.0	0.0
Energy Recovery from Anaerobic Digester	0.5	0.5
Energy Recovery from Aerobic Digester	1.0	1.0
Energy Recovery from Both Digesters	1.5	1.5






**Table 1: Typical RO feed pump power consumption**

RO System	Flow Rate (MGD)	Pressure (PSI)	Power (kW)	Power (HP)	Efficiency (%)	Notes
1. 100 GPM (1.5 MGD)	1.5	150	1.5	2.0	75	
2. 200 GPM (3.0 MGD)	3.0	150	3.0	4.0	75	
3. 300 GPM (4.5 MGD)	4.5	150	4.5	6.0	75	
4. 400 GPM (6.0 MGD)	6.0	150	6.0	8.0	75	
5. 500 GPM (7.5 MGD)	7.5	150	7.5	10.0	75	
6. 600 GPM (9.0 MGD)	9.0	150	9.0	12.0	75	
7. 700 GPM (10.5 MGD)	10.5	150	10.5	14.0	75	
8. 800 GPM (12.0 MGD)	12.0	150	12.0	16.0	75	
9. 900 GPM (13.5 MGD)	13.5	150	13.5	18.0	75	
10. 1000 GPM (15.0 MGD)	15.0	150	15.0	20.0	75	

**Notes:**

1. Power consumption is based on 100% efficiency.
2. Power consumption is based on 100% efficiency.
3. Power consumption is based on 100% efficiency.
4. Power consumption is based on 100% efficiency.
5. Power consumption is based on 100% efficiency.
6. Power consumption is based on 100% efficiency.
7. Power consumption is based on 100% efficiency.
8. Power consumption is based on 100% efficiency.
9. Power consumption is based on 100% efficiency.
10. Power consumption is based on 100% efficiency.

**Source:** Bureau of Reclamation










Promotion of  
Renewable Energy  
for Water production  
through Desalination

## RO main advantages


Reverse Osmosis unit is characterized by:

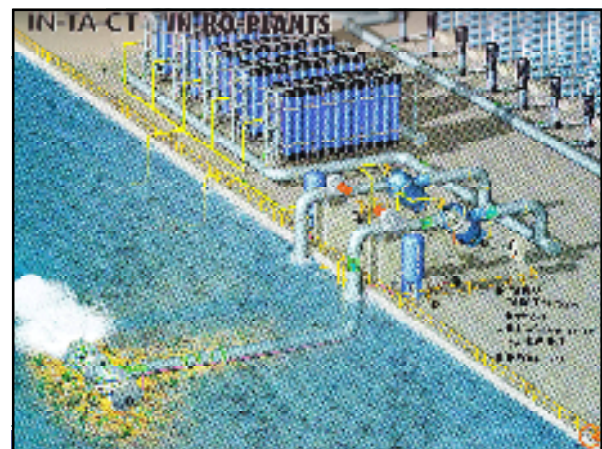
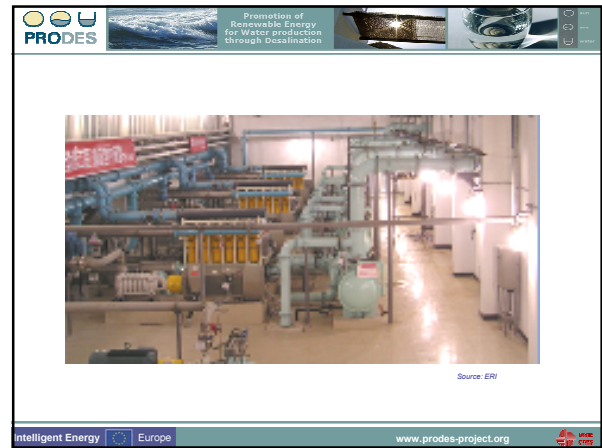
- Modularity/Compactness
- No empirical technical staff is required
- Satisfactory performance in all sizes
- Easy operation
- Low energy requirements (use of energy recovery devices)

Intelligent Energy Europe

[www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)






**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

Gela site RO site, Sicily

RO units (15000 m<sup>3</sup>/d)



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

RO plant in Giglio Island (Italy)



- Capacity: 1800m<sup>3</sup>/d;
- Desalinated ater cost: 0.76 €/m<sup>3</sup>
- Water cost with ships: 10÷15 €/m<sup>3</sup>

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

Seawater water RO desalination unit CRES RO plant (1)

Input Data

Q<sub>p</sub>= 0.130 l/hr = 3.1 m<sup>3</sup>/day  
 Cf= 37,000 ppm TDS  
 R= 13%  
 Tf= 20°C  
 Pop= 53 bar  
 Qf= 991 l/hr= 23.8 m<sup>3</sup>/day=0.99m<sup>3</sup>/h

Output Data

Qf=0.95 l/hr= 23 m<sup>3</sup>/day  $R = \frac{Q_p}{Q_f} * 100\%$

P<sub>sp</sub>=0.294 kW  $P_{sp} = \frac{\rho * g * h * Q_f}{n_p} = \frac{1.026 * 9.81 * 85 * (0.99 / 3600)}{0.8} = 0.294 \text{ kW}$

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

CRES RO plant (2)

$$P_{HP} = \frac{P_f * Q_f}{n_p} = \frac{53 * (0.99 / 36)}{0.85} = 1.7 \text{ kW}$$

P<sub>app</sub> = 1.7 kW

P<sub>T</sub> = 1.7 + 0.294 = 2 kW

Sp.En. Consumption = 2 kW \* 24/3.1 = 15.4 kWh/m<sup>3</sup>

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

**Tutorial**

INPUT DATA

- Seawater RO unit
- Product Water Capacity = 50 m<sup>3</sup>/day= 2,08 m<sup>3</sup>/hr
- R = 28%
- Pop = 64 bar
- 3 membranes of 8" each
- Manometric height: 85 m
- P=1.026



Calculate the total installed power of the RO unit and the specific energy consumption with energy recover device and without.

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

**Solution**

- R=Qp/Qf ⇒ Qf = 2,2/0.28= 7,85 m<sup>3</sup>/hr

$$P_{hp} = \frac{\rho * g * h * Q_f}{n_p} = \frac{1.026 * 9.81 * 85 * (7.85 / 3600)}{0.8} = 2.3 \text{ kW}$$

$$P_{HP} = \frac{P_f * Q_f}{n_p} = \frac{64 * (7.85 / 3600) * 100000}{0.85 * 1000} = 16.4 \text{ kW}$$

P<sub>T</sub> = 2.3 + 16.4 = 18.7 kW

Spec. En. Consumption = 18.7 kW \* 24/50 = 8.9 kWh/m<sup>3</sup>

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

$Q_f = Q_p + Q_b \Rightarrow Q_b = Q_f - Q_p = 7.85 - 2.2 = 5.65 \text{ m}^3/\text{hr}$   
 $P_b = 62 \text{ bar}$

$ER = P_{T_h} \cdot Q_{T_h} \cdot \eta_i = 62 \cdot (5.65 / 36) \cdot 0.85 = 8.2 \text{ kW}$

$P_T = 2.3 + 16.4 = 18.7 \text{ kW}$  without energy recovery device  
 $P_T = 2.3 + 8.2 = 10.5 \text{ kW}$  with energy recovery device

Spec. En. Consumption =  $10.5 \text{ kW} \cdot 24/50 = 5.04 \text{ kWh/m}^3$

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Thermal Desalination Processes - Distillation ΘΕΡΜΙΚΕΣ ΜΕΘΟΔΟΙ ΑΦΑΛΑΤΩΣΗΣ

Ευτυχία Τζέν  
Μηχ. Μηχανικός, BSc, MSc  
Τμήμα Αιολικής Ενέργειας  
email: etzen@cres.gr



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Μέθοδοι Απόσταξης - Ορισμός

Η απόσταξη είναι μια μέθοδος αλλαγής φάσης στην οποία το αλμυρό νερό θερμαίνεται για να δημιουργήσει ατμό, το οποίο στη συνέχεια συμπυκνώνεται και παράγει αποσταγμένο νερό.

Οι κυριότερες μέθοδοι απόσταξης είναι:

- Πολυβάθμια Εκτόνωση **MSF**
- Πολυβάθμια Εξάτμιση **MED**
- Εξάτμιση με Επανασυμπίεση Ατμών **VC**

Η κυριότερη ενεργειακή απαίτηση στη διαδικασία της απόσταξης είναι η θερμότητα που χρειάζεται για την εξάτμιση του νερού τροφοδοσίας (θαλασσινού νερού).

Στις μονάδες απόσταξης στόχος είναι με μια αρχική ποσότητα θερμικής ενέργειας να προκαλέσουμε την εναλλαγή των διαδικασιών εξάτμισης και συμπύκνωσης όσον το δυνατόν περισσότερες φορές.

Οι πιο κοινές διαδικασίες απόσταξης λειτουργούν βάσει της αρχής της μείωσης της πίεσης του ατμού στη μονάδα ώστε να προκληθεί ο βρασμός του νερού τροφοδοσίας σε χαμηλότερες θερμοκρασίες, χωρίς καμία επιπλέον θερμότητα.

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

Ο ατμός μπορεί να παραχθεί από ένα διάλυμα που βρίσκεται στο σημείο βρασμού, είτε με προσθήκη θερμότητας ή με την ελάττωση της πίεσης (στιγμιαία εκτόνωση).

Water boiling point table

Pressure	1 bar	0.47 bar	0.32 (Top of Everest)	0.25	0.1
Boiling Point	100°C	80°C	70°C	65°C	45°C

Source: SIEM

\*Ambient pressure at sea level = 1 atm=1.013 bar

✳ Για να μειώσουμε την ενέργεια που απαιτείται για την εξάτμιση του νερού, οι μέθοδοι της απόσταξης συχνά χρησιμοποιούν τη διαδικασία του πολλαπλού βρασμού σε στάδια, όπου το καθενα από αυτά λειτουργεί σε χαμηλότερη πίεση και θερμοκρασία.

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

- ✳ Η μέγιστη θερμοκρασία λειτουργίας των μονάδων περιορίζεται στους 115°C περίπου.
- ✳ Η λειτουργία της μονάδας σε θερμοκρασία άνω των θερμοκρασιών προκαλεί τη δημιουργία λεβητόλιθου (scale).
- ✳ Η κατακρήση του λεβητόλιθου στους σωλήνες των εναλλακτών και των σωληνώσεων της μονάδας προκαλεί διαβρωση των μεταλλικών τους μερών και μείωση της απόδοσης της μονάδας.

Υπάρχουν 2 βασικά είδη λεβητόλιθου:

- **Αλκαλικός λεβητόλιθος** – σχηματίζεται από τα ανθρακικά άλατα του ασβεστίου και του μαγνησίου
- **Οξίνος λεβητόλιθος** – σχηματίζεται από το θειικό ασβέστιο

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

PRODES Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Πολυβάθμια Εκτόνωση ή Πολυβάθμια Εκρηκτική Εξάτμιση Multi Stage Flash Distillation Process MSF

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org



**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### MSF Technology Description

Η μέθοδος της Πολλαπλής Εκτόνωσης, Multi Stage Flash (MSF), χωρίζεται σε 2 τύπους συστημάτων:

- The Once through MSF (Απευθείας Εξάτμιση)
- The Brine recirculation MSF (Με Επανακυκλοφορία της άλμης)

Στα συστήματα MSF με επανακυκλοφορία ένα ποσοστό της άλμης αφού αναμειχθεί με το εισερχόμενο θαλασσινό νερό επανακυκλοφορεί σαν νερό τροφοδοσίας.

Η επανακυκλοφορία της άλμης ελαττώνει σημαντικά το κόστος επεξεργασίας του νερού τροφοδοσίας

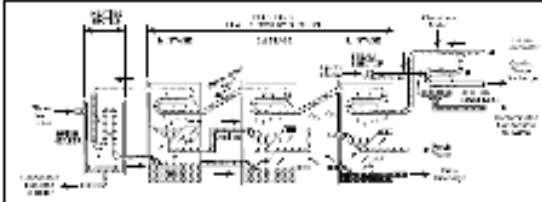


Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

Το σύστημα χωρίζεται στα παρακάτω τμήματα:

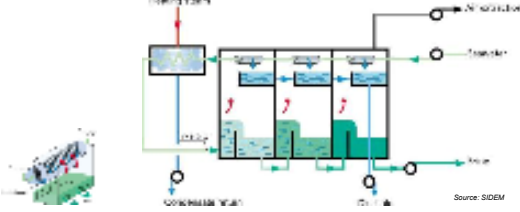
- Τμήμα Απόρριψης θερμότητας (μόνο στο σύστημα με επανακυκλοφορία της άλμης)
- Τμήμα Ανάκτησης θερμότητας και
- Τμήμα Εισόδου θερμότητας



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### MSF με απευθείας εξάτμιση

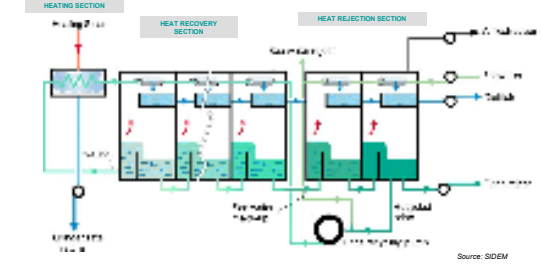


Source: SDEM

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### MSF με Επανακυκλοφορία Άλμης



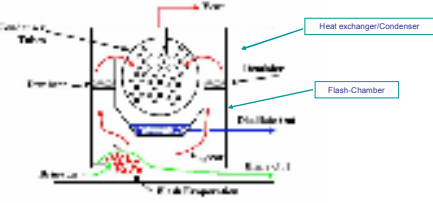
Source: SDEM

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

Κάθε στάδιο αποτελείται από τους θαλάμους έκρηξης, τους εναλλάκτες θερμότητας/συμπυκνωτές, όπου ο ατμός εκτονώνεται και συμπυκνώνεται.

Ο θάλαμος έκρηξης χωρίζεται από τον συμπυκνωτή με έναν διαχωριστή (demister) και το δοχείο συλλογής αποσταγμένου νερού.



Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination


### MSF - Βαθμός Απόδοσης Μονάδων (Performance ratio, $P_R$ )

$$P_R = \frac{M_d}{M_s}$$

όπου



- $M_d$  = μάζα παραγόμενου νερού, kg
- $M_s$  = μονάδα μάζας του καταναλισκόμενου ατμού, MJ

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org




**PRODES**

Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

## Διάταξη Μονάδων MSF



Item	Single Effect	Double Effect	Triple Effect
Heat exchanger tubes	UNS30400, 316L, 304H, 316H, 316H, 316H	UNS30400, 316L, 304H, 316H, 316H, 316H	UNS30400, 316L, 304H, 316H, 316H, 316H
Condenser tubes	UNS30400, 316L, 304H, 316H, 316H, 316H	UNS30400, 316L, 304H, 316H, 316H, 316H	UNS30400, 316L, 304H, 316H, 316H, 316H
Heating medium	UNS30400, 316L, 304H, 316H, 316H, 316H	UNS30400, 316L, 304H, 316H, 316H, 316H	UNS30400, 316L, 304H, 316H, 316H, 316H
Heating medium piping	UNS30400, 316L, 304H, 316H, 316H, 316H	UNS30400, 316L, 304H, 316H, 316H, 316H	UNS30400, 316L, 304H, 316H, 316H, 316H

## Πολυβάθμια Εξάτμιση

### Multi Effect Distillation Process

#### MED

[www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

## Μέθοδος MED

Η διαδικασία απόσταξης στην MED, όπως και στην MSF μέθοδο λαμβάνει χώρα σε μια σειρά σταδίων (effects) χρησιμοποιώντας την αρχή της εξάτμισης και της συμπύκνωσης κάτω από μειωμένη πίεση του περιβάλλοντος, στα διάφορα στάδια.

Η κύρια διαφορά μεταξύ της μεθόδου MSF και MED είναι στον τρόπο της εξάτμισης και της μεταφοράς θερμότητας.

[www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

[www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

MED horizontal tube arrangement

MED vertical tube bundle arrangement

MED vertically stacked tube bundles

Source: Bureau of Reclamation

[www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

Οι μονάδες MED έχουν συνήθως μικρότερο αριθμό βαθμιδών (σταδίων), 8-16 βαθμίδες, σε σχέση με τις μονάδες MSF.

Το PR (παραγωγή νερού/καταναλισκόμενο σιρό) είναι σχεδόν πάντα ίσο με τον αριθμό των βαθμιδών μείον 1. Εάν ο PR μιας μονάδας ανήκει στο 8 ο αριθμός των βαθμιδών θα είναι 9.

[www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

## MED Process Characteristics

Item	Low temperature horizontal tube design	Low temperature vertical tube design	Stacked vertical tube design	High temperature horizontal tube design	High temperature vertical tube design
Maximum operating temperature (°C)	71.7	71.7	110	110	110
Process recovery (percent)	20 to 35	20 to 35	67	20 to 35	20 to 35
Performance ratio (kg/MJ)	3.44 to 5.17	3.44 to 4.30	10.33	3.44 to 6.46	3.44 to 6.46
Heat transfer coefficient (w/m <sup>2</sup> -K)	1,703 to 3,407	1,703 to 3,407	4,542 to 11,356	1,703 to 4,259	1,703 to 4,259
Concentrate (mg/l)	54,000	54,000	106,000	54,000	54,000
Electrical consumption (MJ/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.00132 – 0.0026	0.00132 – 0.0026	0.000528 – 0.00106	0.00132 – 0.0026	0.00132 – 0.0026
Distillate quality (mg/l)	0.5 to 25.0	0.5 to 25.0	0.5 to 25.0	0.5 to 25.0	0.5 to 25.0
Pretreatment chemical	Polyphosphate	Polyphosphate	Acid or polymer	Polymer	Acid or polymer
Pretreatment dose rate (mg/l)	0.5 to 4.0	0.5 to 4.0	Acid at 140 Polymer at 1 to 2	1.0 to 2.0	Acid at 140.0 Polymer at 5 to 10

Note: MJ/m<sup>3</sup> = Mega joules per cubic meter, w/m<sup>2</sup>-K = watts per square meter-Kelvin.

Source: Bureau of Reclamation

[www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)



MED Materials of Fabrication			
Item	Horizontal tube design	Vertical tube design	Stacked vertical tube design
Effect vessels	Carbon steel, epoxy coated	Carbon steel, epoxy coated	Concrete
Effect tubing	Aluminum	Aluminum brass, copper nickel	Aluminum
Effect tube sheets	Aluminum	Aluminum brass, copper nickel	Aluminum
Preheater tubing	Aluminum	Aluminum brass	Titanium
Pumps	Stainless steel, grade 316	Stainless steel, grade 316	Aluminum brass
Deaerator	Carbon steel, epoxy coated	Carbon steel, epoxy coated	Concrete, aluminum
Decarbonator	Carbon steel, epoxy coated	Carbon steel, epoxy coated	Concrete, aluminum
External structural shapes	Carbon steel	Carbon steel	Not required
Internal supports	Carbon steel, epoxy coated	Carbon steel, epoxy coated	Aluminum
Demisters	Stainless steel, grade 316	Stainless steel, grade 316	Stainless steel, grade 316

Source: Bureau of Reclamation



Trapani, Italy

Source: UNIPA, Italy



Επανασυμπύεση Ατμών  
Vapor Compression  
VC

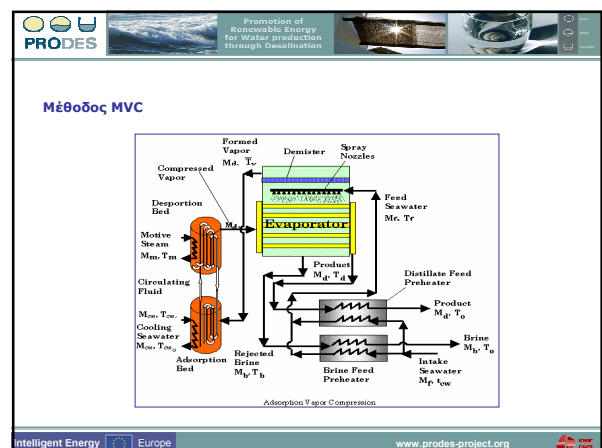
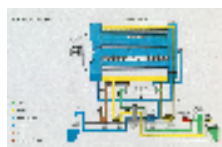
Η μέθοδος Επανασυμπύεσης Ατμών (VC) είναι μια θερμική διαδικασία που συνήθως χρησιμοποιείται για μικρές και μεσάζοντες μονάδες αφαλάτωσης θαλασσινού νερού.

Οι μονάδες αυτές επίσης επωφελούνται από την αρχή της μείωσης της θερμοκρασίας βρασμού με τη μείωση της πίεσης του περιβάλλοντος, αλλά η θερμότητα για την εξάτμιση του νερού προέρχεται από συμπύεση ατμού και όχι από τη διαδικασία ανταλλαγής της θερμότητας από ατμό που παράγεται σε λέβητα. (Αδιαβατική μεταβολή στη θερμοκρασία από την αλλαγή της πίεσης ενός αερίου χωρίς την προσθήκη θερμότητας).

Ο ατμός μπορεί να συμπιεστεί είτε με μηχανικό συμπιεστή ή με τη χρήση ενός ατμοθερμολυμπίστη.

Χωρίζεται στις μεθόδους:

- Μηχανική Επανασυμπύεση Ατμών [MVC]
- Θερμική Επανασυμπύεση Ατμών [TVC]



**Μονάδες VC**

Source: SIDEM, France

Source: SIDEM, France

Source: SIDEM, France

Source: SIDEM, France

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**VC Process characteristics**

Item	Low temperature (MVC)	High temperature (MVC)	Low temperature (TVC)
Maximum operating temperature (°C)	46.1	101.7	46.1
Process recovery (percent)	40	40	40
Performance ratio (kg/MJ)	3.44 to 5.17	NA	NA
Heat transfer coefficient (W/m <sup>2</sup> -K)	1,703 to 2,271	NA	NA
Concentrate (mg/l)	58,000	58,000	58,000
Energy consumption (MJ/m <sup>3</sup> )	None	None	0.0159 to 0.0238
High-pressure steam	0.0172 to 0.0252	0.0172 to 0.0252	0.00132
Electricity use	<25	<10	<25
Distillate quality (mg/l)	Polyphosphate 0.5	Acid or polyphosphate 4 to 10	Polyphosphate 0.5

NA = not available

Source: Bureau of Reclamation

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**VC Materials of Fabrication**

Item	Low temperature operation	High temperature operation
Evaporator shell	Carbon steel, epoxy coated	Carbon steel, clad with 316L stainless steel or all 316L stainless steel
Heat exchanger tubing	Aluminum	Titanium
Tube plates	Aluminum	Carbon steel, clad with titanium
Interconnecting piping	Aluminum alloy	Stainless steel, grade 316L
Feed headers	Titanium	Titanium
Trunks	Titanium	Stainless steel, grade 316L
External structural shapes	Carbon steel	Carbon steel
Densifiers	Stainless steel, grade 316	Stainless steel, grade 316

Source: Bureau of Reclamation

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**VC Plants**

Source: SIDEM, France

Source: SIDEM, France

Source: SIDEM, France

Source: SIDEM, France

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

**MVC plant**

Source: SIDEM, France

**TVC Plant**

Source: Weir Westphal Ltd, UK

Intelligent Energy Europe www.prodes-project.org

## Distillation Processes Comparison

Source: Wagnick, IDA, 2004

Intelligent Energy
 Europe
 www.prodes-project.org

## Desalination Market

Lecturer: Eftihia Tzen  
Wind Energy Department  
Email: etzen@cres.gr

Intelligent Energy
 Europe
 www.prodes-project.org

## Desalination Industry (1)

In some countries, the cost of water produced in even seawater desalination plants is already lower than from any other method, (especially in cases where the natural resources are limited).

Saudi Arabia ranks first in total capacity (about 24% of the world's capacity), with most of it being made up of seawater desalting units that use the distillation process.

The United States of America (USA) ranks second in overall capacity, with about 16 %. Most of the capacity in the USA consists of plants in which the RO process is used to treat brackish water.

Intelligent Energy
 Europe
 www.prodes-project.org

## Desalination Industry (2)

The world's installed capacity consists mainly of the MSF distillation and RO processes. These two processes make up about 84% of the total capacity.

In recent years, the industry has achieved great advances in RO technology, and since the 1970s new membrane capacity has exceeded new distillation capacity.

The remaining 15% is made up of the Multiple Effect, Electrodialysis, and Vapor Compression processes, while the minor processes amounted to less than 1%.

Intelligent Energy
 Europe
 www.prodes-project.org

## Capacity of land-based desalting plants capable of producing 100m<sup>3</sup>/day/unit or more of fresh water vs Region

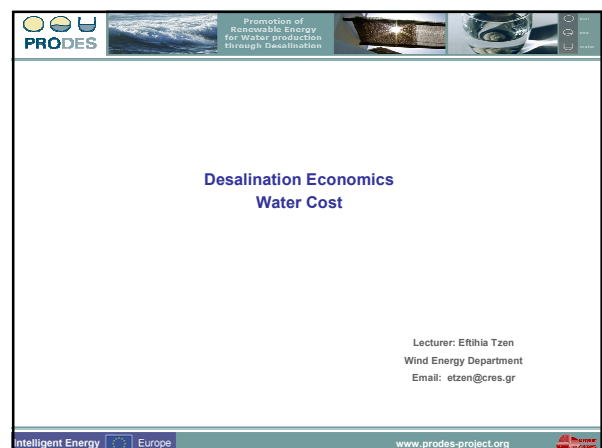
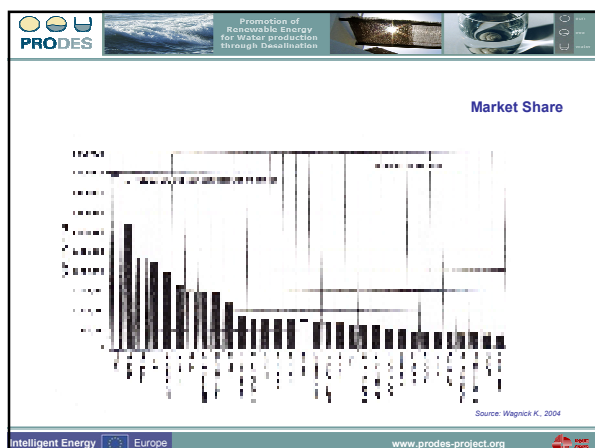
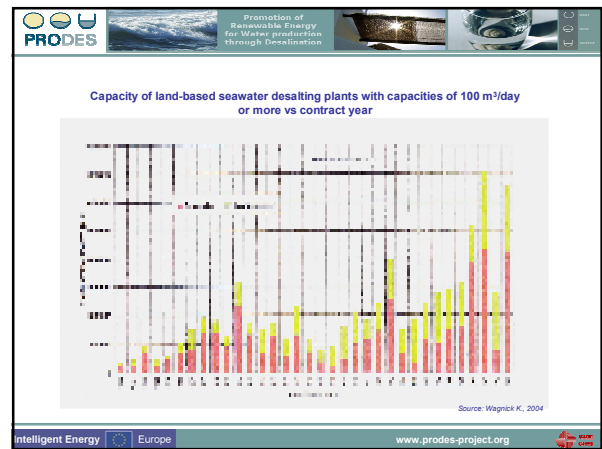
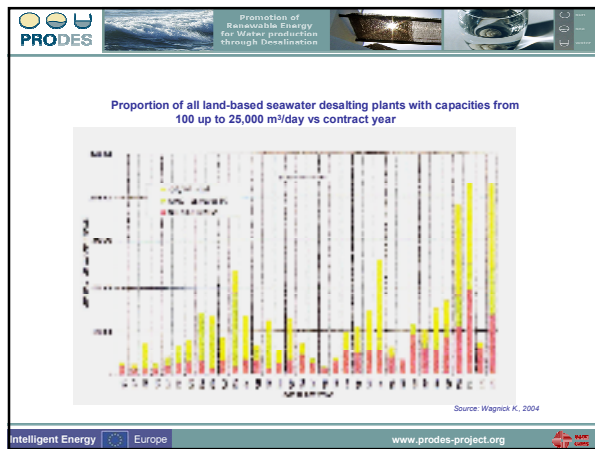
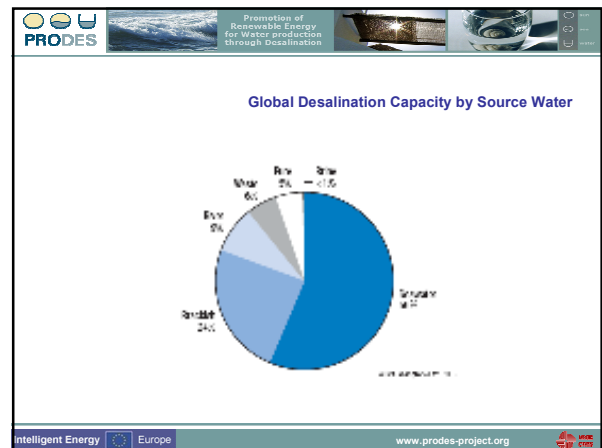
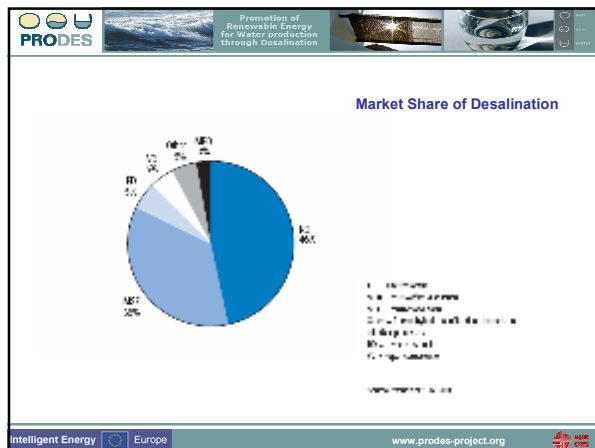
Source: Wagnick K, 2004

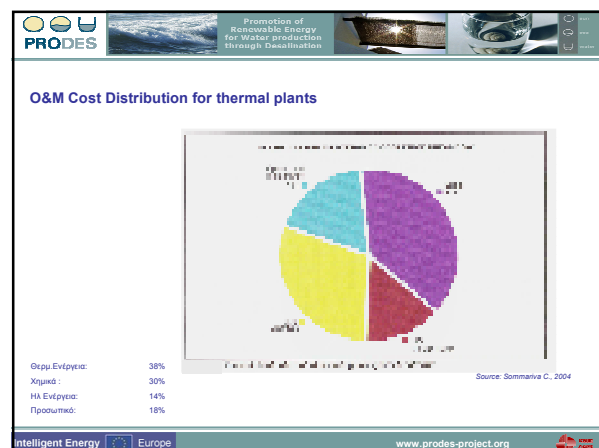
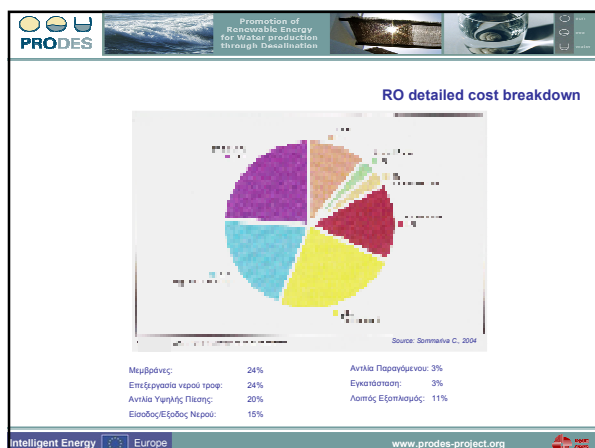
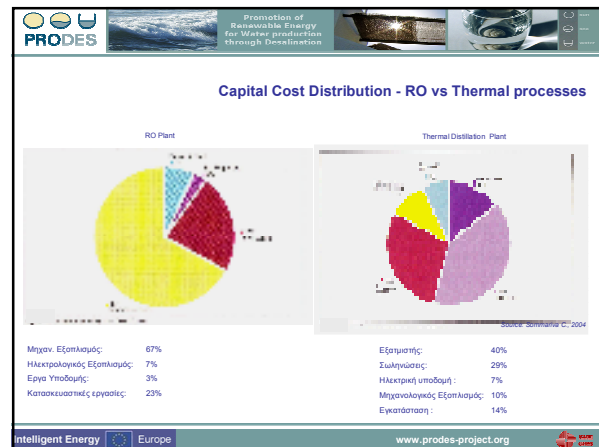
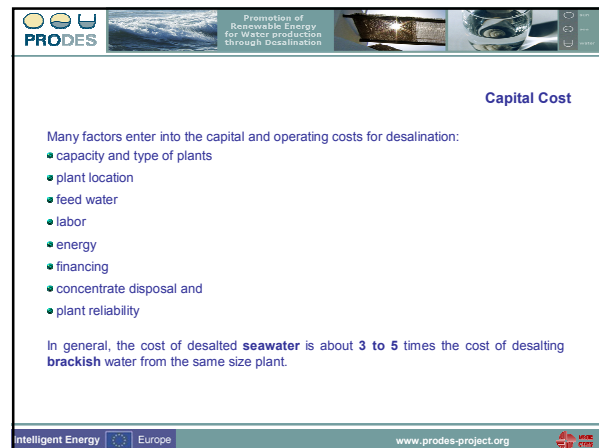
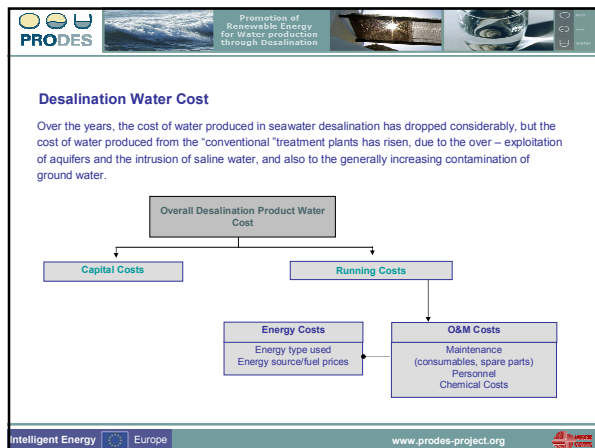
Intelligent Energy
 Europe
 www.prodes-project.org

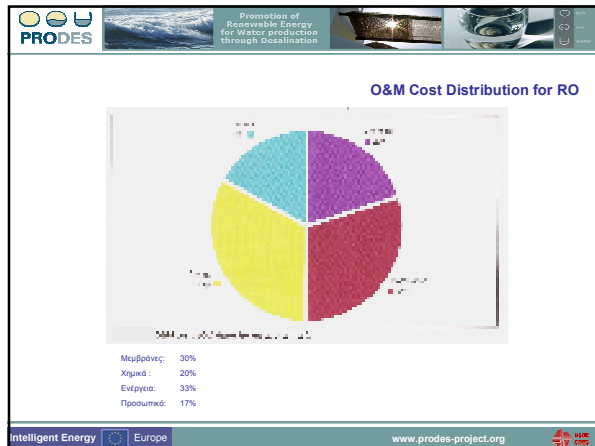
The majority of the desalination plants, especially in the Middle East, operate according to the MSF process, whereas in Europe, the majority operate according to the RO process.

Source: Wagnick K, 2004

Intelligent Energy
 Europe
 www.prodes-project.org







**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Desalination Unit Water Cost

The total production costs, including capital recovery, is estimated

- for brackish water systems with capacities of 4,000 to 40,000 m<sup>3</sup>/d typically ranges from \$0.25 to \$0.60/m<sup>3</sup>.
- for seawater desalination plants ranging from 4,000 to 100,000 m<sup>3</sup>/d, the total cost of water estimated at \$3 to \$0.75/m<sup>3</sup>.

These amounts give some idea of the range of costs involved, but the site- and country-specific factors will affect the actual costs.

Intelligent Energy Europe [www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### The Water Price

The price of water is increasing—sometimes dramatically—throughout the world. Over the past five years, municipal water rates have increased by an average of 27% to around 60%. For instance 27% in the United States, 45% in Australia, 50% in South Africa, and 58% in Canada, ([www.earth-policy.org](http://www.earth-policy.org)).

- Water costs = cost of exploitation and extraction + cost of treatment (cleaning, desalination) + cost of distribution (transportation, pipeline, losses) + cost of sewerage
- Water price = Water costs - Subsidies

Typical real costs (worldwide):

Exploitation and extraction:	0.05 ... 0.8 €/m <sup>3</sup>	} 0.5 ... 20 €/m <sup>3</sup>
Desalination (large installations):	0.43 ... 2.0 €/m <sup>3</sup>	
Distribution:	0.2 ... 15.0 €/m <sup>3</sup>	
Sewerage:	0.3 ... 2.0 €/m <sup>3</sup>	

Intelligent Energy Europe [www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)

**PRODES** Promotion of Renewable Energy for Water production through Desalination

### Water prices and consumptions in Europe

Country	Consumption (liter/ day / person)	Mean water price per m <sup>3</sup> Water + sewerage + taxes (€/m <sup>3</sup> )
Spain	130	1.0
Ireland	135	0
Luxembourg	150	0.90
UK	150	1.6
Italy	160	0.8
Sweden	180	1.15
Portugal	190	1.0
Greece	200	1.1
France	113	2.6
Finland	116	2.5
Germany	118	3.6
Belgium	120	1.9
Netherlands	126	2.7
Danmark	138	4.3
Austria	150	2.6

Source: IMA Statistik 2005

Intelligent Energy Europe [www.prodes-project.org](http://www.prodes-project.org)