

Liquid filtration glossary

Acidity:	The quantitative capacity of a liquid solution to react with an alkali.
Absorb/Absorption:	The process of fluids being taken into the pores of a solid.
Alkalinity:	The quantitative capacity of a liquid solution to react with an acid.
Backwash:	Flow reversed through a filter medium to remove filtered solids.
Blinding:	Fabric blockage by dust, fume, or liquid not being discharged by the cleaning process, resulting in a reduced flow with an increased pressure drop.
Cake:	Solids deposited on the filter media.
Cake filtration:	As a cake builds on the surface of a filter, the product itself becomes part of the filtration process.
Calendering:	The fabric is passed over a heated roller under many tonnes of pressure. The fabric surface is melted and smoothed to produce a surface glazed effect. Calendering provides for better cake release and reduces the permeability of fabric.
Centrifugation:	The process of separating two substances of differing densities by high speed spinning to create centrifugal force. Typically used to separate suspended particles from liquid.
Circumference:	The measurement around the outside of a filter bag
Clarification:	The filtration of liquids containing small quantities of solids.
Clarity:	The clearness of a liquid measured by the amount of contaminants remaining
Colloids:	Suspended submicron particles in a continuous fluid medium that will not settle out of the medium.
Depth filtration:	A process that entraps contaminants both within and on the surface of the filter media.
Diameter:	The measure across a filter bag, assuming its perfect circular state.
Efficiency:	The ability of the filter medium to remove particles from a fluid stream.
Effluent:	The outflow from types of treatment such as wastewater treatment plants. The fluid that is passed through a filter (also known as filtrate or product stream).
Emulsion:	A suspension of small liquid droplets within a second liquid that will not mix.
Heat setting:	The fabric is passed over a heated blanket. This relaxes the yarn in the fabric and makes it somewhat dimensionally stable in use. Dimensional stability is important so that fabrics resist changing shape (e.g. stretch) in use.
Flow rate:	The speed at which a liquid flows, measured in litres or gallons per minute. Flow rate of a liquid can be affected by the liquid's viscosity, differential pressure, temperature and/or the type of filter used.

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Impingement:	The direct effect of a particle or liquid upon a filter media.
Influent:	The stream of fluid entering the filter.
Lay flat:	The measurement across the width of a circular filter bag, flattened (equal to one half of the circumference)
Micron:	A unit of length equal to 1/1000 of one millimetre
P.H.:	The measurement of the amount of acidity or alkalinity in a product. A P.H. of 7.0 is neutral, less than 7.0 is acidic, and more than 7.0 is alkaline.
Porosity:	A measure of the open area of a filter medium. Sometimes expressed as a void volume.
Pre-stretching:	A process whereby a fabric is pre-stretched in order to counteract filter belt lengthening when in use. Essential for large belt filter fabrics, it allows for good tracking when in use
Process filtration:	Filtration used as an active part of producing finished products.
Retention:	The ability of a filter to collect and retain particles from a gas or liquid, expressed as a percentage of particles originally present.
Singeing:	The fabric is passed quickly over a gas flame where the surface fibres are melted, resulting in a hard surface finish which aids cake release. Needlefelts are usually supplied singed as standard.
Specific gravity:	The ratio of the density of a substance to the density of a reference substance. For example the mass of a solid or liquid compared to the mass of an equal volume of distilled water.
Surface filtration:	Particles forming a cake on the surface of the filter media
Turbidity:	The measure of the amount of haze or cloudiness caused by fine particles in a fluid.
Turbidimetric efficiency:	The percentage reduction of haze or cloudiness in a fluid.
Vessel:	A container for filter cartridges or bags.
Viscosity:	The measure of the resistance to the flow of a liquid. Viscosity of a liquid varies with changes in temperature. Typically expressed in centipoise, centistoke or SSU values.