

Water Purification Use Membrane Process Systems in Japan:
Present State and Technology Development Trends

日本における水道用膜処理施設の現状と技術開発の動向

Masahiro Fujiwara, Water Research Center, Japan

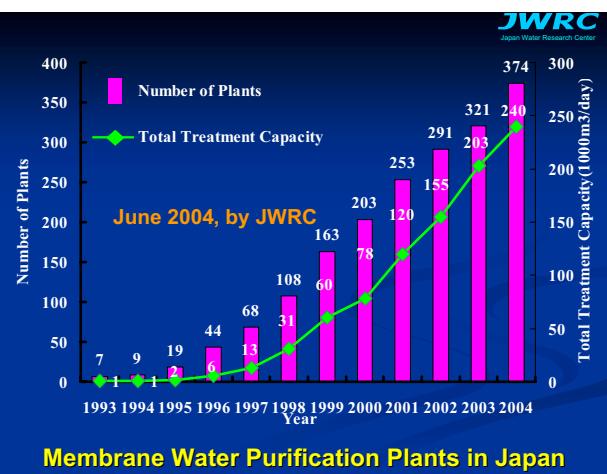
水道技術研究センター 藤原正弘

Water Purification System with Membrane Filtration Process in Japan

Present State, and Trends in Technology Research and Development

Masahiro Fujiwara, Dr. Eng.
President, Japan Water Research Center

JWRC
Japan Water Research Center



Large Scale R&D

Year	Project Name	Content
1991 – 1993	MAC21	Pilot Plant for MF / UF Membrane
1994 – 1996	Advanced-MAC21	Pilot Plant for NF Membrane
1997 – 2001	ACT21	R&D on High efficiency Water Purification Technology
2002 – 2004	e-Water	R&D on Sustainable Water Purification Technology

Present Situation of Membrane Facilities in Japan

Background in Japan

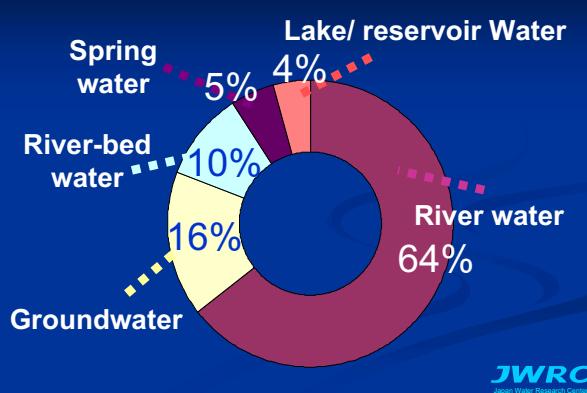
- Necessity of plants' renewal
- Standards for waterworks facilities (2000)
- New water quality standards (2004)

Scale of Membrane Plants

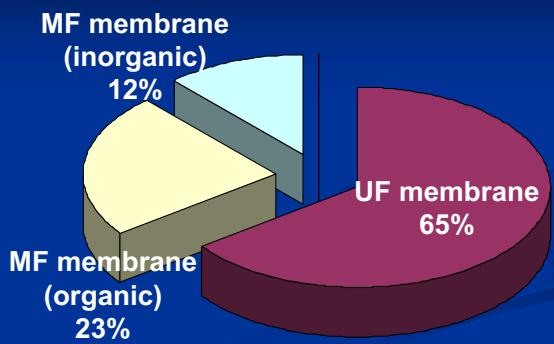
Treatment capacity (m³/day)	0 ~ 100	101 ~ 1,000	1,001 ~ 10,000	10,001 ~
Number of plants	145	173	55	1

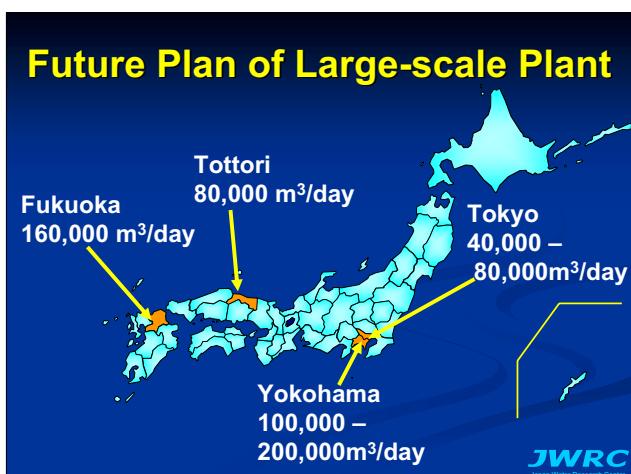
Total : 374
Total Capacity : 240,000m³/day

Water Sources



Membrane Material





Planned Module Replacement Schedule

Frequency	Once every 3 years or less	Once every 5 years	Once every 5–7 years	Once every 10 years	Once every 12 years	Once every 15 years
Case	2	5	5	1	1	1

Organic Inorganic

JWRC
Japan Water Research Center

Advanced Membrane Technology

- New type of membrane
- >100,000m³/day-class plant
- Application to existing plants
- Others



Outline of Maintenance

Physical Cleaning
Every 20 - 120 minutes : Organic membrane
Every 6 hours : Inorganic membrane

Chemical Cleaning
Every 6 months - 2 years

Module replacement
???

Cost

(by 29 plants Interview survey)

Total construction cost
¥300,000 – 400,000 / m³
65% : electric and instrumentation

Running cost
Electric power : ¥8 / m³
Chemical : ¥1 / m³
Chemical cleaning : ¥16 / m³

New Types of Membrane

- ✓ Ceramic Membrane
- ✓ Ozone resistant Membrane
- ✓ Large pore Membrane



Large Pore Membrane Element



Nominal pore size : 2 μ m

JWRC
Japan Water Research Center

Application of Membrane Technologies to Existing Plants

Submerged membrane system

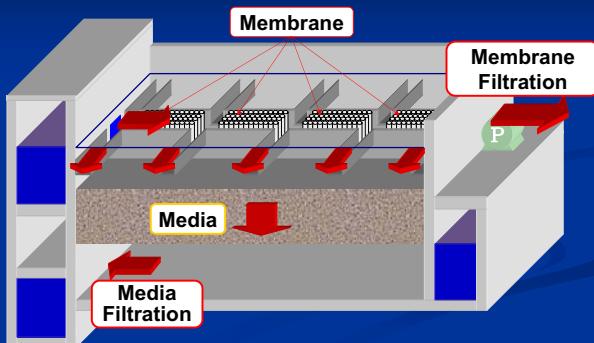
Challenge to Introduction of 100,000m³/day Scale Membrane Plant

R & D projects is now conducted under a big project, "e-Water".



6 research groups are involving in Yokohama

Hanshin Water Supply Authority



Related Systems for Promotion

- (1) Government subsidy system
- (2) Equipment approval system
- (3) Membrane module approval system
- (4) Study of membrane module standardization
- (5) Development of Cryptracer-M

Development of Cryptosporidium Tracer

Name	Cryptracer-M
Purpose	Simulated Cryptosporidium Particle
Diameter	3.1 μ m
Fluorescent Dye	Fluorescence Microscope

Equipment Approval System



Seawater Desalination Plant

JWRC
Japan Water Research Center

Seawater Desalination Plant

70 plants

Most of plants in isolated Islands.

Large plants in Okinawa etc.

JWRC
Japan Water Research Center

JWRC
Japan Water Research Center



Thank you for
your kind attention



Seawater Desalination Plant in OKINAWA
40,000m3/day

JWRC
Japan Water Research Center

Operating Large Seawater RO Desalination Plants in the World (2002)

Rank	Country	Location	Capacity	Operation	Plant	Membrane
			(m3/d)	(year)	Supplier	Supplier
1	Trinidad & Tobago	Point Lisa	136,000	2002	Ionics	Toray
2	Saudi Arabia	Yanbu RO2	128,000	1998	Mitsubishi	Toyobo
3	Saudi Arabia	Al Jubail III	91,000	2000	Preussag	DuPont*/Toray
4	Saudi Arabia	Jeddah RO1	56,800	1989	Mitsubishi	Toyobo
4	Saudi Arabia	Jeddah RO2	56,800	1994	Mitsubishi	Toyobo
6	Spain	Marbella	56,400	1999	Inima	DuPont*
7	Malta	Penbroke	54,000	1994	Polymetric	DuPont*
8	Bahrain	Al Dur	45,000	1989	Weirwest gathge	DuPont*
9	Spain	Bl Mallorca	42,000	1998	Degremont	DuPont*/Toray
10	Japan	Okinawa	40,000	1997	Kurita,Ebara,etc.	Toray,Nitto

* DuPont withdrew from RO business in 2001