

Steam filtration

Application Support Publication

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filtration
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Parker domnick hunter Process Filtration

Setting the standard

Parker domnick hunter brings extensive experience through our Scientists, Engineers and sales representatives to the process of offering specific filtration systems to meet the needs of your production process. Support services are available covering a wide range of activities including scale-up advice from laboratory through pilot scales to production systems, validation support, design and manufacturing of custom housings and filtration products and on-site technical support.

Committed to quality

Quality is of paramount importance to Parker domnick hunter. As such we have been certified to ISO9001 since 1987, providing a quality management system that covers the entire organization including R & D, production, warehousing, materials management and customer support. In addition, our manufacturing facilities operate to the principles of cGMP.

This commitment is underlined by our registration to ISO 14001 and certification to current ISO9001.

Validation and product certification

To certify that Parker domnick hunter products meet the required regulatory and quality standards of the industries that we supply, all filters are supplied with a certificate of conformance. These certificates are linked to validation documents for both prefilter and sterilizing grade membrane filter products that define methodologies and data appropriate to each filter type. This information typically includes:

- Technical specifications
- Biological safety testing including current USP <88> Class VI - 121 °C Plastics
- Extractable testing including 21CFR211.72 and 210.3(b), 6 for fibre releasing filters
- Purified water filtration quality including TOC, bacterial endotoxins, conductivity and particle release
- Chemical compatibility information
- Thermal stability
- Correlation of an appropriate non-destructive integrity test to a defined bacterial challenge
- Where appropriate this data is included in Parker domnick hunter's Drug Master File No. 7564 held at the US Food and Drug Administration repository.

Validation support services

Parker domnick hunter has extensive laboratory facilities and trained personnel capable of providing a range of validation services to support manufacturers in meeting their requirements for process validation relating to the use of filtration products.

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Steam filtration

Steam is an often neglected part of a process, regarded as an add-on to a customer's liquid or gas filtration needs. It can, however, have large specific applications in its own right.

The quality of steam used within the food and dairy industries has been raised higher on the agenda in an ever increasing number of companies. Minimum accepted standards are now being quoted on a more regular basis with particular reference to 'culinary grade' steam.

There is also a growing tendency to install central steam filtration systems that are of high capacity. This requires a specific design of filter to optimize the flow characteristics of the filter medium.

Our range of steam filters is geared to provide a solution for all applications.

Overview of steam quality

The quality of steam can be divided into three distinct categories:

- Process steam
- Culinary steam
- Clean steam

Process steam

This is primarily used in instances where there is no direct contact with the product being manufactured such as indirect heating of products via external steam jackets. In the biotechnology industry applications could include WFI stills, bio waste kill systems, process heating, jacketed autoclaves etc. When adequately filtered it can be used for the sterilization of sterile gas filters.

Culinary steam (3A Standard 609-03)

This is an American standard laid down for the dairy industry and defined as; *"Steam that is free of entrained contaminants, is relatively free of water in liquid form and is suitable for use in direct contact with milk or milk products or product contact surfaces"*.

The filtration requirements are, however, applicable to the food and beverage industry as a whole and are being recognized far more outside of the USA. Its growing acceptance is mainly due to a lack of recognized standards for steam outside of the USA.

The Parker domnick hunter range has been specifically developed to target this area.

Clean steam (HTM 2031 :1997)*

Clean steam is defined in HTM 2031* as: *"Steam whose condensate meets purity requirements of Water for Injection BP (British Pharmacopoeia) (including a limit on pyrogens) with the additional specifications to protect against corrosion of materials used in the construction of sterilizers and medical devices"*. The requirements are primarily for the grade of water used to generate the steam. It is, therefore, not possible to produce 'clean steam' through filtration.

*Health Technical Memorandum 2031 "Clean Steam for Sterilization".

General requirements (3A Standard 609-01):

- The steam filter should be capable of removing 95% of particles 2 microns in size and larger in the liquid phase, and should have an associated condensate trap (thermodynamic type).
- The materials of construction of the filter and pipe work should be manufactured from 300 Series stainless steel or above.
- Any additives to the boiler feed water should conform to CFR Title 21, Chapter 1, Part 173, Subpart D, Section 173.310.

What are the benefits of steam filtration ?

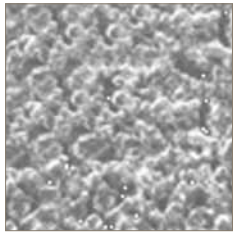
Apart from clean steam, when steam is generated in a boiler there are large amounts of contamination from pipe-scale and boiler feed water that need to be fine filtered.

This will ensure that:

- There is no fouling of critical orifices (pressure regulation valves / injectors etc. on filling machines).
- There is no contamination / discolouration of sterile equipment.
- There is no contamination of products.
- There is an increase in process efficiencies (e.g. bulk contamination can lead to an increase in pressure drops in distribution pipelines).
- There is adequate protection to downstream filters. For both liquid and gas filters this can ensure that the filter will not block prematurely or be damaged in service because of the presence of large particulate.

Filter media types

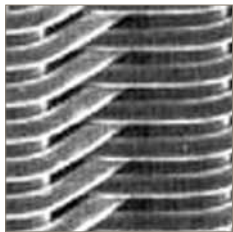
The type of filters used for steam filtration can be divided into three main groups:



Sintered

- Tight pore structure
- Low surface area
- Low flow rates
- Relatively low cost

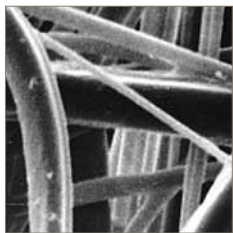
This product is produced by forming tubes from metal powder under high temperatures and pressures.



Pleated mesh

- High surface area
- High flow rates
- Relatively expensive
- More open structure

The filtration media in this product is made from weaving metal wires to create a mesh.



Pleated sintered metal fibre (pleated microfibre)

- Tight pore structure
- High surface area
- High flow rates
- Higher cost than pleated mesh

This filtration media is produced by sintering together (high temperature and pressure) small metal fibres, to produce a material that is essentially a metal version of glass microfibre media.

Micron range can be as low as 3 micron absolute but as the micron rating drops the costs rise substantially. The grade used by Parker domnick hunter is the 5 micron product.

The Parker domnick hunter range consists of all three types. The grade used depends on the application.

Filter micron ratings

The effect of condensate

The rating of a filter is dependent on whether it is being rated in gas or liquid. For example, a filter which has an absolute rating of 40 micron in liquid and a nominal rating of 25 micron, will remove particles from a gas stream down to approx 5 micron.

The available range of steam filters with quoted rating is as follows:

	General (Sintered)	General (Pleated Mesh)	Culinary (Sintered)	Culinary (Pleated microfibre)
Micron rating in steam	25 µm	5 µm	1 µm	1 µm

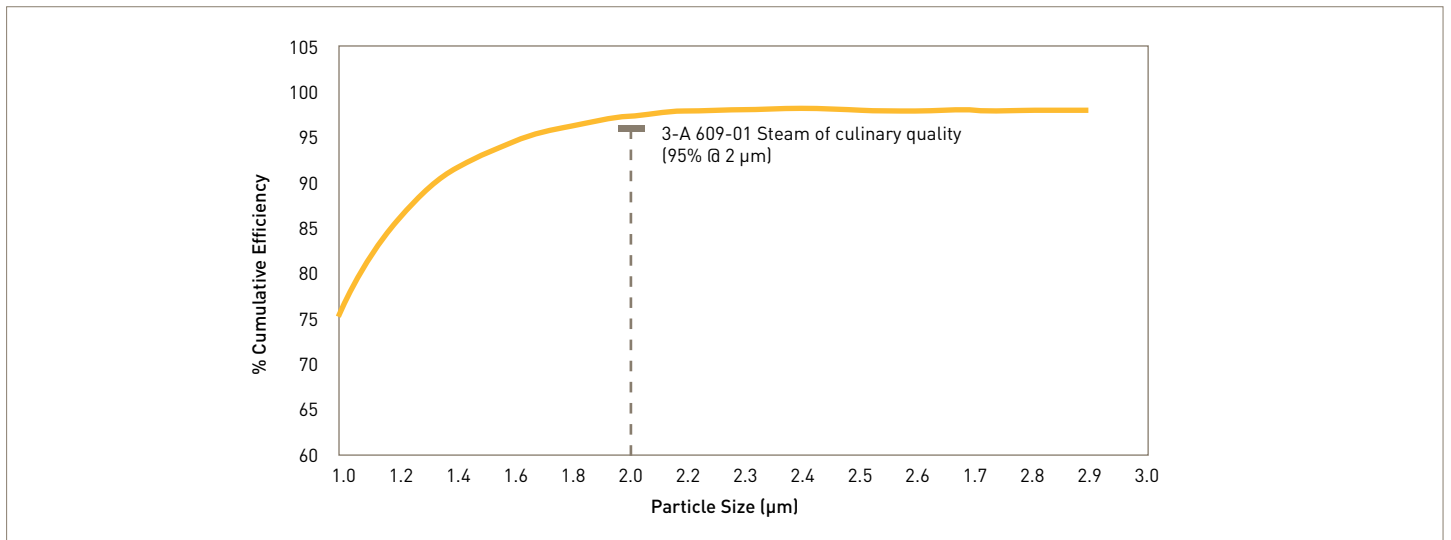
A nominal rating is given for steam as the true rating is dependant on the water content. Even though most steam is dry saturated, it is not completely free from entrained water. Typically dry saturated steam has a dryness fraction of around 95%. Rather than trying to complicate the whole subject by quoting the rating as a function of dryness fraction the above general ratings have been adopted.

If large quantities of condensate are present within the system then the filter efficiency will be reduced from a gas rating to a liquid rating in direct proportion to the amount of liquid present. Therefore, to maximize the efficiency and throughput of the filter, the design of the steam distribution system and housing is extremely important.

For example, a 5 micron pleated mesh filter in a well designed and drained distribution system could provide better quality steam than a 1 micron culinary filter in a poorly designed system with high condensate loads.

True efficiencies can be determined for the worst-case (liquid phase) as in culinary steam standard. Other methods have been adopted such as using titanium oxide powder in an air challenge but this is not representative of the application.

The efficiency in the liquid phase for the pleated metal fibre product is shown below:



Efficiency graph for culinary grade pleated steam filter
Cumulative efficiencies for ZCHS-001 Pleated metal fibre culinary grade steam filters

The Parker domnick hunter product range

The steam filter range can be split into two product types: SINTERED and PLEATED. Both types are available in both a general grade and a culinary grade. The filters are housed in the HBACE and VISCE housing range.

Sintered tube

These are available in two micron ratings; 25 micron (general) and 1 micron (culinary).

Pleated mesh and microfibre

These are also available in two micron ratings; 5 micron (general : mesh) and 1 micron (culinary : microfibre)

Jumbo (J) and Multi Jumbo (3J).

The Jumbo cartridge is specifically designed to maximize the flow performance of the filter media by maximizing the bore of the endcap and hence reducing the differential pressure. The area of pleated media has been optimized to match the capacity of the housing connections with respect to steam flow.

For example, a steam system requiring a 5 round 10" housing can now be replaced with the 4" Jumbo product.

The introduction of the Jumbo filter has also allowed a more cost-effective solution for the pleated range of culinary steam filters for high capacity systems. These systems in the past have all used multiple 10" filters. The above new range also gives a great advantage in size over a sintered system for culinary steam. A diagram highlighting the relative size of both solutions is shown below.

Figure	Housing Code	Connection Size	Capacity Kg / hr @ 1 barg	Overall Height	Replacement Filter Code
1	HBAHP01KY	1.5" (38.1 mm)	150	14.8" (376 mm)	ZCHS-K-...C
	HBAHP011C	2" (50.8 mm)	280	20.7" (526 mm)	ZCHS-1-...C
2	VISCE-01J-D	3" (50.8 mm)	750	30.0" (763 mm)	ZCHS-J-...3
	VISCE-01J-E	4" (101.6 mm)	1300	35.2" (895 mm)	ZCHS-J-...4
	VISCE-03J-G	6" (152.4 mm)	2300	41.2" (1049 mm)	3 x ZCHS-J-...3
	VISCE-03J-H	8" (203.2 mm)	3750	48.7" (1237 mm)	3 x ZCHS-J-...4

Note: For efficient steam distribution it is recommended that steam velocities are restricted to 25 m / sec¹. For more information on the HBA range, please contact Parker domnick hunter.

Figure	Housing Code	Connection Size	Capacity Kg / hr @ 1 barg	Overall Height	Replacement Filter Code
1	HBAHP01KY	1.5" (38.1 mm)	21 45	14.8" (376 mm)	ZCSSK-...C
	HBAHP011C	2" (50.8 mm)	40 160	20.7" (526 mm)	ZCSS1-...C
	HBAHP012C	2" (50.8 mm)	82 280	30.5" (776 mm)	ZCSS2-...C

Note: For efficient steam distribution it is recommended that steam velocities are restricted to 25 m / sec¹. For more information on the HBA range, please contact Parker domnick hunter.

Which product for which application ?

Process steam

This requires basic prefiltration to render the steam suitable for the sterilization of membrane and glass microfibre cartridges. The cartridges used are either the 5 micron PLEATED or the 25 micron SINTERED. Flow rates through both the SINTERED and PLEATED mesh products are high. For accurate details on capacities to allow selection refer to the Parker domnick hunter sizing program.

Culinary steam

The choice of a culinary grade steam filter (PLEATED or SINTERED) is governed primarily by the flow rates required. It is important to note that a sintered culinary grade filter will give the same quality of steam as the pleated metal fibre. The main difference is in the flow capacity. If pipework is old or prone to release of pipscale etc., it is advised that a 5 micron or a 25 micron filter is used as a prefilter.

The table below gives an approximate guide to selecting when a sintered product should be specified over a pleated variant. For each pipe size a maximum flow rate is given, above which a pleated product should be used.

Connection Size (inches)	Flow Rate (kg / hr @ 1 barg)
0.5"	All
1"	< 30
2"	< 150

To put the difference in flow rates between SINTERED and PLEATED for culinary grade filtration into perspective a 10" pleated filter will flow the same as three 20" sintered filters.

Clean steam

High purity water has been demonstrated to be chemically aggressive, the purer the steam, the more aggressive it can be. It is possible to generate clean steam within a standard distribution system rather than using new stainless steel but corrosion issues are more important to consider. Reaction with the pipework and valves can lead to a hard protective oxide layer (magnetite Fe_3O_4) on the inside of pipes. If the steam is acidic (<ph7) the layer can be broken down and particulate shedding results. This contamination is usually identified as black or reddish discolouration of products.

To guarantee this particulate does not contaminate, it is recommended (HTM2031) that a 5 micron filter is positioned at the point of use. Parker domnick hunter would install the culinary grade filter or a HIGH FLOW TETPOR II product if particulate free steam had to be guaranteed.

A summary is shown on the flow chart following to aid the selection process.

Process Steam

- Direct from boiler
- No direct contact with product being manufactured



Applications

- General heating
- Steam jackets
- Bio waste kill systems



Cartridges

- Required if steam is used to sterilize liquid and gas cartridge filters
- Selection dependant on flow parameters



SINTERED 25 µm
[Selection Criteria]
Use for relatively low flow rates

PLEATED 5 µm
[Selection Criteria]
High flow rate and dirt holding capacity

Culinary Steam (3A Standard 609-03)

- 95% retention of >2 micron particles in the liquid phase
- Manufactured from 300 series stainless steel
- Any additives to the boiler feed should conform to CFR Title 21, Chapter 1, Part 173, Section 173.310



Applications

- Used in direct contact with food
- Direct contact with food processing equipment and HVAC systems



Cartridges

- Selection dependant on flow parameters



SINTERED 1 µm
[Selection Criteria]
Use for relatively low flow rates

Culinary 1 µm
[Selection Criteria]
Used to maximize steam capacity of pipe

JUMBO Filters
[Selection Criteria]
Highest available capacity

Clean Steam (HTM 2031:1997)*

- Condensate to WFI standards



Applications

- Pharmaceutical products
- Pharmaceutical plant HVAC systems



Cartridges

- For removal of magnetite particles generated from stainless steel pipes due to corrosive purity of steam



HIGH FLOW TETPOR II
[Selection Criteria]
PTFE membrane 100% removal of magnetite particles generated from stainless steel pipes

Culinary 1 µm
[Selection Criteria]
To conform to HTM 2031 Point of Use filter rated at <5 µm

Installation of steam filtration systems

General

It is normal in steam distribution systems to limit the velocity of the steam to a maximum of 40 m/sec and in most cases the velocity will be in the region of 25 m/sec. The higher velocities can be used on short branch lines where higher pressure drops may be acceptable.

As a guide the pressure drop through pipes at various line pressures is given below. This is given for a worst case of 40 m/sec and purely intended to give an appreciation of the magnitude of pressure drops involved.

Processing steam at higher velocities has a number of disadvantages such as:

- Noise
- Pipework erosion
- Water hammer
- Required operating pressure not achievable at point of use

Filter Type	Pressure drop (mbar) / 10 meters @ 40 m/sec Line Pressure (barg)							
	0	1	2	3	7	10	15	20
0.5"	100	220	260	300	-	-	-	-
1"	60	100	120	170	300	430	550	800
2"	30	40	50	60	130	170	230	280
3"	15	20	30	40	80	110	130	200
4"	10	10	20	20	60	80	100	120
6"	10	10	10	20	30	40	60	80
8"	10	10	10	10	15	20	30	50

Condensate drainage

The key to an efficient steam distribution system is that of condensate removal. Steam mains can produce a large amount of condensate especially on start up from cold. Even a well lagged line can produce quantities of condensate which, if not properly managed, will cause problems.

For example, a 100 mm diameter pipe 30 meters long carrying steam at 7 barg will produce 16 litres of condensate per hour.

Measures to aid condensate removal can be found in the steam-in-place guide. Contact Parker domnick hunter for further information.

Inadequate drainage of condensate leads to a number of problems, namely:

- Lowering of filter efficiency (gas to liquid)
- Much higher pressure drops
- Difficulty in obtaining the necessary sterilization temperatures at the process
- Premature blockage of filters

Premature blockage of filters

If a large amount of condensate is allowed to build up in distribution lines, debris from the bottom of the pipe will be picked up and carried onto the filter. This could block a culinary grade steam filter extremely quickly. By eliminating condensate the chance of picking up this contamination from the pipes is significantly reduced .

Cleaning of steam filters

Parker domnick hunter can assist with recommendations for cleaning of stainless steel steam filters. Please contact Parker domnick hunter Technical Services Group for further details if required.

Steam filter sizing

A steam filter sizing program is available. This requires the input of steam flow and pressure to generate the differential pressures for each filter size. A pre-selection is performed as part of the program as it omits differential pressure values that are either below 15 mbar or above 250 mbar.

Saturated steam pipeline capacities at specific velocities (schedule 80 pipe)

Pressure bar	Velocity m/s	kg/h 15 mm	20 mm	25 mm	32 mm	40 mm	50 mm	65 mm	80 mm	100 mm	125 mm	150 mm
0.4	15	7	14	24	37	52	99	145	213	394	648	917
	25	10	25	40	62	92	162	265	384	675	972	1457
	40	17	35	64	102	142	265	403	576	1037	1670	2303
0.7	15	7	16	25	40	59	109	166	250	431	680	1006
	25	12	25	45	72	100	182	287	430	716	1145	1575
	40	18	37	68	106	167	298	428	630	1108	1712	2417
1.0	15	8	17	29	43	65	112	182	260	470	694	1020
	25	12	26	48	72	100	193	300	445	730	1160	1660
	40	19	39	71	112	172	311	465	640	1150	1800	2500
2.0	15	12	25	45	79	100	182	280	410	715	1125	1580
	25	19	43	70	112	162	295	428	656	1215	1755	2520
	40	30	64	115	178	275	475	745	1010	1895	2925	4175
3.0	15	16	37	60	93	127	245	385	535	925	1505	2040
	25	26	56	100	152	225	425	632	910	1580	2480	3440
	40	41	87	157	250	375	595	1025	1460	2540	4050	5940
4.0	15	19	42	70	108	156	281	432	635	1166	1685	2460
	25	30	63	115	180	270	450	742	1080	1980	2925	4225
	40	49	116	197	295	456	796	1247	1825	3120	4940	7050
5.0	15	22	49	87	128	187	352	526	770	1295	2105	2835
	25	36	81	135	211	308	548	885	1265	2110	3540	5150
	40	59	131	225	338	495	855	1350	1890	3510	5400	7870
6.0	15	26	59	105	153	225	425	632	925	1555	2525	3400
	25	43	97	162	253	370	658	1065	1520	2530	4250	6175
	40	71	157	270	405	595	1025	1620	2270	4210	6475	9445
7.0	15	29	63	110	165	260	445	705	952	1815	2765	3990
	25	49	114	190	288	450	785	1205	1750	3025	4815	6900
	40	76	177	303	455	690	1210	1865	2520	4585	7560	10880
8.0	15	32	70	126	190	285	475	800	1125	1990	3025	4540
	25	54	122	205	320	465	810	1260	1870	3240	5220	7120
	40	84	192	327	510	730	1370	2065	3120	5135	8395	12470
10.0	15	41	95	155	250	372	626	1012	1465	2495	3995	5860
	25	66	145	257	405	562	990	1530	2205	3825	6295	8995
	40	104	216	408	615	910	1635	2545	3600	6230	9880	14390
14.0	15	50	121	205	310	465	810	1270	1870	3220	5215	7390
	25	85	195	331	520	740	1375	2080	3120	5200	8500	12560
	40	126	305	555	825	1210	2195	3425	4735	8510	13050	18630

Technical Support Group activities

Parker domnick hunter have a trained team of Scientists and Engineers available to answer questions regarding the technical capabilities of our products, to assist in the selection and design of appropriate filtration systems and to provide user training programs. The following services can be delivered both on-site and in-house:

- Filterability testing to optimize filter system design
- Advice on the development of integrity testing, steam sterilization and clean-in-place procedures
- Development of validation protocols
- Troubleshooting
- Facility audits to ensure continued optimization of filter use
- Operator training including filtration theory, filter system design and management, validation, etc.

For more information on any of the above support services please contact your local Parker domnick hunter representative.

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