**FILMTEC Membranes**
Basics of RO and NF: FILMTEC Membrane Safe for Use in Food Processing

Under the food additive provision of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, contact surfaces of components used in the production of food, including water, must comply with established regulations set forth by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in order to receive approval for safe use. In accordance with its long-standing commitment to quality, petitions were submitted to the FDA for the FILMTEC™ FT30 reverse osmosis membrane and all FILMTEC NF membranes for evaluation and approval.

The procedure for FDA approval is rigorous and thorough. First, a food additive petition must be submitted to the FDA. This petition includes information about the chemical identity and composition of the component and its physical, chemical and biological properties. The petitioner must also describe the proposed use of the component, including all directions, recommendations and suggestions. Data must be included which establish that the component will have the intended effect when used in this manner. In addition, experimental data must show the extent that the component directly or indirectly affects the safety of the food with which it comes in contact. The petition must finally analyze the environmental impact of the manufacturing process and the ultimate use of the component.

The FDA evaluates the petition for the specific biological properties of the component and its demonstrated safety for the proposed use. The data and experimental methods are also evaluated for adequacy and reliability. As a guideline for this evaluation, the FDA uses the principles and procedures for establishing the safety of food additives stated in current publications of the Nation Academy of Sciences-National Research Council.

Reverse Osmosis and nanofiltration membranes received FDA clearance for use in processing liquid foods and in purifying water for food applications. This clearance is published in the Code of Federal Regulations under Title 21, Section 177.2550, Reverse Osmosis Membranes. The FT30 reverse osmosis membrane as well as all nanofiltration membranes comply with this regulation.
FILMTEC Membranes
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Notice: The use of this product in and of itself does not necessarily guarantee the removal of cysts and pathogens from water. Effective cyst and pathogen reduction is dependent on the complete system design and on the operation and maintenance of the system.

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