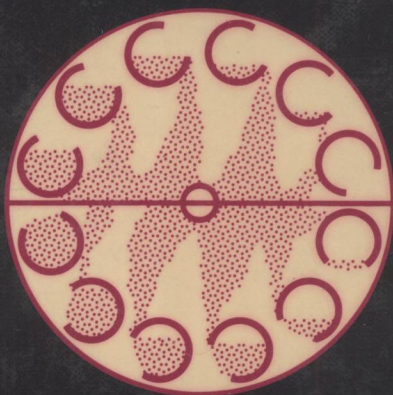


*Handbook of*  
**SEPARATION  
TECHNIQUES**  
*for*  
**CHEMICAL  
ENGINEERS**  
*Second Edition*



*Philip A. Schweitzer*  
*Editor in Chief*

# **Handbook of Separation Techniques for Chemical Engineers**

SECOND EDITION

**PHILIP A. SCHWEITZER, P.E.** *Editor-in-chief*  
*Consultant*

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# **Handbook of Separation Techniques for Chemical Engineers**

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# Preface to the Second Edition

The principles developed in the preparation of the first edition have been followed in this second edition.

Contents from the first edition have been either updated with regard to new developments in the field or completely rewritten when major changes have been made. In addition, there are two completely new sections:

Section 1.16, *High-Pressure Liquid Chromatographic Separations*, discusses a separation technique employed only recently on an industrial scale although used for many years for laboratory analytical separations.

Section 3.3, *Mass Transfer Using Fluidized Bed Techniques* covers a new development in the field of separation techniques for gas (vapor) mixtures.

Following is a brief résumé of the major changes:

1. The subject of distillation has been expanded considerably to include the latest developments in structured packing, column design, and multicomponent and binary separation techniques. Numerous illustrations have been added throughout the first eight chapters.

2. The chapters dealing with liquid-liquid extraction have been completely rewritten.

3. Advances made in parametric pumping have prompted a rewriting of the chapter on this subject.

4. Improvements in the area of liquid-solid separation techniques have resulted in the rewriting of several chapters and updating of others.

As with the first edition, this Handbook will provide in a single source all the information needed to help a practicing engineer evaluate which separation technique is best suited for a given application.

Thanks are again extended to the many contributors for sharing their expertise with the engineering profession, and to the many industrial concerns and organizations for permitting use of their data and charts.

*Philip A. Schweitzer, P.E.*



# Preface to the First Edition

Many textbooks have been written on the subject of separation techniques. These books are usually devoted to the derivation of correlations, are highly theoretical, and provide relatively few concrete examples of the application of theory to practical everyday problems. Very seldom is more than one separation technique covered in a single volume, which makes it somewhat difficult to evaluate which technique is best suited for a particular application. This handbook, however, includes all the major separation techniques which are used industrially.

This handbook has been designed to provide the chemical engineer with sufficient information to evaluate which technique is best suited for his or her specific requirements and then, by means of illustrative problems, to show how the theory is applied. Since an understanding of the theory is necessary for proper application, the basic theory is presented and ample references are supplied for those interested in further theoretical study and in the derivation of the correlations used.

For the purpose of this book, *separation techniques* are defined as those operations which isolate specific ingredients of a mixture without a chemical reaction taking place. One deviation has been made from this principle by the inclusion of the section dealing with *ion exchange*. This was done because of the importance of ion exchange to the field of separation techniques.

The separation techniques covered are widely used in chemical manufacturing operations as well as in the design of pollution control equipment. The latter application usually involves the greatest degree of evaluation of one technique versus another.

This handbook should be helpful to chemical engineers, consultants, environmentalists, government officials, and others who are involved in the separation of mixtures of ingredients whether for manufacturing operations or for pollution control.

The editor-in-chief wishes to thank the many contributors who made their time available and were willing to share their expertise with other members of the engineering profession through the sections of the

handbook which they contributed. Thank yous are also extended to the many organizations, companies, and individuals who graciously permitted use of their charts, data, photographs, and other pertinent information. An additional thank you is extended to the editor-in-chief's wife, for her understanding and many hours of typing throughout the course of the preparation of this handbook.

*Philip A. Schweitzer*

# International System (SI) of Units and Conversion Factors

This coherent system of measurement, designated “SI” in all languages, has been accepted as the preferred system of units by 36 countries, including the United States.

Since most nations have or are in the process of converting from their individual national systems of measurement to SI units, it will only be a matter of time until the conversion is made in all nations. Many industries in the United States are already in the process of converting.

Throughout this handbook a dual system of measurement has been utilized—the English (U.S. Customary) and SI systems.

Tables giving SI base units and prefixes to be used in forming multiples and submultiples of SI units are given. And to assist the reader in making conversions, a table has been included which provides conversion factors for the more common English units to their equivalent SI units, and vice versa.

**SI Base Units**

Quantity	Base unit	Symbol
Length	meter	m
Mass	kilogram	kg
Time	second	s
Electric current	ampere	A
Thermodynamic temp.	kelvin	K
Amount of substance	mole	mol
Luminous intensity	candela	cd

**SI Prefixes**

Multiple	SI prefix	Symbol
$10^{18}$	exa	E
$10^{15}$	peta	P
$10^{12}$	tera	T
$10^9$	giga	G
$10^6$	mega	M
$10^3$	kilo	k
$10^2$	hecto	h
10	deka	da
$10^{-1}$	deci	d
$10^{-2}$	centi	c
$10^{-3}$	milli	m
$10^{-6}$	micro	$\mu$
$10^{-9}$	nano	n
$10^{-12}$	pico	p
$10^{-15}$	femto	f
$10^{-18}$	atto	a

**System of Consistent Units**

Measurement	English	Metric
Absolute temperature	°R or °F abs.	K or °C abs.
Area	square inch square foot	square centimeter square meter
Capacity	quart gallon	liter liter
Density	pound per cubic foot	gram per cubic centimeter
Force of gravity conversion factor	$32.17 \left( \frac{\text{lb mass}}{\text{lb force}} \right) \left( \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{s}^2} \right)$	$980.6 \left( \frac{\text{g mass}}{\text{g force}} \right) \left( \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{s}^2} \right)$
Gas constant	$1546 \frac{\text{ft} \cdot \text{lb force}}{\text{lb} \cdot \text{mol} \cdot ^\circ\text{F}}$	$84,400 \frac{\text{cm} \cdot \text{g force}}{\text{g} \cdot \text{mol} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}}$
Gas flow rate	cubic foot per second	cubic centimeter per second
Length	inch foot foot	millimeter centimeter meter
Molecular weight	lb·mol	g·mol
Number of gas molecules in a mole	$2.76 \times 10^{26}/\text{lb} \cdot \text{mol}$	$6.06 \times 10^{23}/\text{g} \cdot \text{mol}$
Pressure	pound per square inch  pound per square foot	kilogram per square centimeter kilogram per square meter
Specific heat	Btu/(°F)(lb)	cal/(°C)(g)
Thermal conductivity	Btu/(s)(ft²)(°F/ft)	cal/(s)(cm²)(°C/cm)
Velocity	foot per second	centimeter per second
Viscosity	pound per foot-second	poise pascal-second
Volume	cubic inch cubic foot gallon	cubic centimeter cubic meter liter
Weight	ounce pound	gram kilogram

**Conversion Factors**

To convert from:	to	Multiply by
atmosphere (atm)	millimeter of mercury (mmHg) at 32°F	760
atmosphere (atm)	dyne per square centimeter (dyn/cm <sup>2</sup> )	$1.033 \times 10^6$
atmosphere (atm)	foot of water at 39.1°F (ftH <sub>2</sub> O)	33.90
atmosphere (atm)	gram per square centimeter (g/cm <sup>2</sup> )	1033.3
atmosphere (atm)	inch of mercury at 32°F (inHg)	29.921
atmosphere (atm)	pound per square foot (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	2116.3
atmosphere (atm)	pound per square inch (lb/in <sup>2</sup> )	14.696
Btu (British thermal unit)	foot-pound (ft·lb)	777.9
Btu	horsepower-hour (hp·h)	$3.929 \times 10^{-4}$
Btu	joule (J)	1055.1
Btu	kilowatthour (kWh)	$2.93 \times 10^{-4}$
Btu/ft <sup>3</sup>	joule per cubic meter (J/m <sup>3</sup> )	37,260
Btu/h	watt (W)	0.29307
Btu/min	horsepower (hp)	0.02357
Btu/lb	joule per kilogram (J/kg)	2326
Btu/(lb)(°F)	calorie per gram degree Celsius [cal/(g)(°C)]	1
Btu/(lb)(°F)	joule per kilogram kelvin [J/(kg)(K)]	4186.8
Btu/s	watts (W)	1054.4
Btu/(ft <sup>2</sup> )(h)	joules per square meter per second [J/(m <sup>2</sup> )(s), or W/m <sup>2</sup> ]	3.1546
Btu/(ft <sup>2</sup> )(min)	kilowatt per square foot (kW/ft <sup>2</sup> )	0.1758
Btu(60°F)/°F	calorie per degree Celsius (cal/°C)	543.6
calorie (gram)	Btu	$3.968 \times 10^{-3}$
calorie (gram)	joule (J)	4.186
centigrade heat unit	Btu	1.8
centimeter (cm)	foot (ft)	0.03281
centimeter (cm)	inch (in)	0.3937
centimeter (cm)	meter (m)	0.01
centimeter (cm)	micron	10,000
cubic centimeter (cm <sup>3</sup> )	cubic foot (ft <sup>3</sup> )	$3.532 \times 10^{-5}$
cubic centimeter (cm <sup>3</sup> )	gallon (gal)	$2.6417 \times 10^{-4}$
cubic foot (ft <sup>3</sup> )	cubic centimeter (cm <sup>3</sup> )	28,317
cubic foot (ft <sup>3</sup> )	cubic meter (m <sup>3</sup> )	0.028317
cubic foot (ft <sup>3</sup> )	gallon (gal)	7.481
cubic foot (ft <sup>3</sup> )	liter (L)	28.316
cubic foot per minute (ft <sup>3</sup> /min)	cubic centimeters per second (cm <sup>3</sup> /s)	472
cubic inch (in <sup>3</sup> )	cubic meter (m <sup>3</sup> )	$1.6387 \times 10^{-5}$
degree Celsius (°C)	kelvin (K)	K = °C + 273
degree Celsius (°C)	degree Fahrenheit (°F)	°F = 9/5(°C) + 32
degree Fahrenheit (°F)	degree Celsius (°C)	°C = (°F - 32)/1.8
degree Fahrenheit (°F)	kelvin (K)	K = (°F + 459)/1.8
degree Rankine (°R)	kelvin (K)	K = °R/1.8
dyne per square centimeter (dyn/cm <sup>2</sup> )	pascal (Pa)	0.1
foot (ft)	meter (m)	0.3048
foot per minute (ft/min)	centimeter per second (cm/s)	0.5080
foot per square second (ft/s <sup>2</sup> )	meter per square second (m/s <sup>2</sup> )	0.3048
gallon (U.S.) (gal)	cubic meter (m <sup>3</sup> )	0.003785
gallon (gal)	liter (L)	3.785
gallon per minute (gal/min)	cubic foot per hour (ft <sup>3</sup> /h)	8.021
gallon per minute (gal/min)	cubic meter per hour (m <sup>3</sup> /h)	0.227
gallon per minute per square foot (gal/min·ft <sup>2</sup> )	meter per hour (m/h)	2.44

**Conversion Factors (Continued)**

To convert from:	to	Multiply by
grain (gr)	gram (g)	0.06480
grain per cubic foot (gr/ft <sup>3</sup> )	gram per cubic meter (g/m <sup>3</sup> )	2.2884
grain per gallon (gr/gal)	parts per million (ppm)	17.118
gram (g)	kilogram (kg)	0.001
gram per cubic centimeter (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	pound per cubic foot (lb/ft <sup>3</sup> )	62.43
gram per cubic centimeter (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	pound per gallon (lb/gal)	8.345
gram per liter (g/L)	pound per cubic foot (lb/ft <sup>3</sup> )	0.0624
gram per square centimeter (g/cm <sup>2</sup> )	pound per square foot (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	2.0482
gram per square centimeter (g/cm <sup>2</sup> )	pound per square inch (lb/in <sup>2</sup> )	0.014223
inch (in)	meter (m)	0.0254
kilogram (kg)	pound (lb avoirdupois)	2.2046
kilogram per square centimeter (kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	pounds per square inch (lb/in <sup>2</sup> )	14.223
liter (L)	cubic meter (m <sup>3</sup> )	0.001
micron	micrometer ( $\mu$ m)	1
millimeter (mm)	meter (m)	0.001
millimeter mercury at 0°C (mmHg)	foot of water at 39.1°F (ftH <sub>2</sub> O)	0.446
millimeter mercury at 0°C (mmHg)	pound per square inch (lb/in <sup>2</sup> )	0.1934
pound (lb avoirdupois)	grain (gr)	7000
pound (lb avoirdupois)	kilogram (kg)	0.454
pound per cubic foot (lb/ft <sup>3</sup> )	gram per cubic centimeter (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	0.016
pound per cubic foot (lb/ft <sup>3</sup> )	kilogram per cubic meter (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	16.018
pound per cubic foot (lb/ft <sup>3</sup> )	gram per liter (g/L)	16
pound per gallon (lb/gal)	gram per liter (g/L)	120
pound per square foot (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	atmosphere (atm)	$4.725 \times 10^{-4}$
pound per square foot (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	kilogram per square meter (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	4.882
pound per square inch (lb/in <sup>2</sup> )	atmosphere (atm)	0.068
pound per square inch (lb/in <sup>2</sup> )	kilogram per square centimeter (kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	0.07
pound per square inch per foot	kilogram per square centimeter per meter	0.23
square centimeter (cm <sup>2</sup> )	square foot (ft <sup>2</sup> )	$1.08 \times 10^{-3}$
square foot (ft <sup>2</sup> )	square meter (m <sup>2</sup> )	0.0929
square foot per hour (ft <sup>2</sup> /h)	square meter per second	$2.581 \times 10^{-5}$
square inch (in <sup>2</sup> )	square centimeter (cm <sup>2</sup> )	6.452
square inch (in <sup>2</sup> )	square meter (m <sup>2</sup> )	$6.452 \times 10^{-4}$
tons (metric)	kilogram (kg)	1000
tons (metric)	pound (lb)	2204.6

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