



**Separation and Purification Sciences Division  
Data Sheet**

**Micro-Klean™ RT Series  
All-Polypropylene Rigid Thermal Bonded Filters**

## Micro-Klean™ RT Series Filter Cartridges

### Advancing Depth Filtration Through Technological Innovation

Micro-Klean™ RT series filters, manufactured using 3M Purification's rigid extrusion bonded technology, are all-polypropylene depth filter cartridges offering premium features including:

- consistent particle reduction efficiencies throughout the filter's life,
- increased surface area for extended filter life,
- low initial pressure drop for enhanced flow, and
- high particle reduction efficiencies at high flow rates (flux).

The filter's extended service life results in fewer filter change-outs while its enhanced flow characteristics can typically reduce the number of filters required to achieve a given flow rate. These combined features of 3M Micro-Klean RT series filters can significantly reduce total filtration costs.



## Micro-Klean™ RT Series Filter Cartridges

The unique Micro-Klean RT series filter manufacturing process combines the superior process control with the quality assurance enabled by an ISO 9001 certified quality system to provide consistent product performance. 3M Purification's exclusive manufacturing process provides a high degree of fiber-to-fiber thermal bonding, without the use of binders, to produce a rigid, core-less, filter structure with the following properties:

- does not unload contaminants with increasing differential pressure like typical meltblown filters,
- allows grooves to be machined into the upstream surface, without tearing or melting the filter structure, providing more than double the effective surface area, and
- exhibits exceptionally low differential pressure for a given filter rating.

The filter's extended service life results in fewer filter change-outs while its enhanced flow characteristics can typically reduce the number of filters required to achieve a given flow rate. These combined features of Micro-Klean RT series filters can significantly reduce total filtration costs.

Consistent filtration throughout the service life of a depth-style filter depends on how well the filter's structure tolerates fluctuations in operating conditions – including contaminant loading and differential pressure. Flexible structures, such as those found in typical meltblown and string-wound filters, tend to compress and change porosity with increased pressure, while rigid structures do not (Photo 1).

Media compression can result in short filter life because the pores collapse and ultimately close.

Media compression can also cause the filter to release already held particles. The robust Micro-Klean RT series filter captures and retains contaminant within its rigid filter matrix, even under increasing differential pressure. In addition, the unique depth filter structure of the Micro-Klean RT series filter provides a significant increase in contaminant holding capacity and provides greater flow capacity at a given pressure.

Unlike soft meltblown and string-wound filters that require core support, the Micro-Klean RT series filter is self-supporting and is grooved to provide greater than twice the surface area. The increase in surface area prevents premature blinding of the outer surface by large particles and gels and promotes fuller utilization of the depth-matrix. The result is significantly longer life than competitive cartridges.

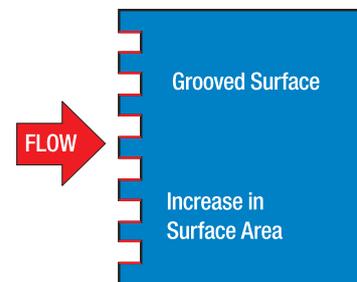
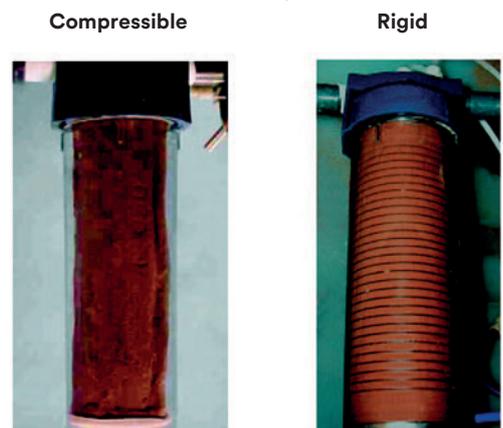


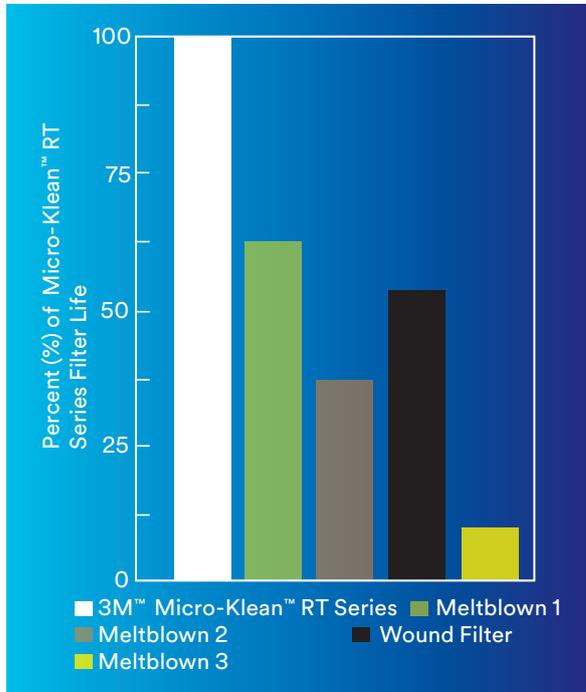
Photo 1. – Compressible vs Rigid Structures @ 35 psid



## Micro-Klean™ RT Series Filter Performance

Micro-Klean™ RT series filters exhibit superior filtration characteristics. The rigid construction allows for enhanced performance compared to other filter structures with equivalent reduction ratings.

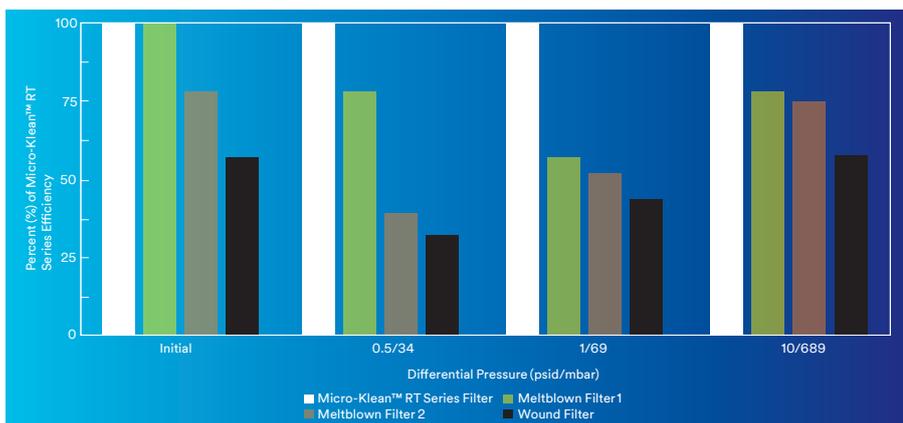
Graph 1. – Life Comparison of Filters Exhibiting Similar Efficiency



## Superior Service Life

Extensive testing of 3M Micro-Klean RT series filters has demonstrated an appreciable advantage in service life. Graph 1 compares rigid Micro-Klean RT series filters to typical meltblown and string-wound filters of equivalent efficiency. All filters were challenged under identical conditions. Comparison of test results, when test filters are subjected to the same contaminant load up to 20 psid (1379 mbar), shows the relative life of the test filters. As depicted, 3M Micro-Klean RT series filters typically provide nearly twice the life of its closest competitor, and up to 10 times or more the life of some competitive filters.

Graph 2. – Efficiency Comparison of Filter Cartridges Rated at 5 Microns Efficiency



## Features & Benefits

### Rigid depth filter construction

- Reduces unloading at high differential pressure
- Efficient reduction of deformable materials
- Consistently superior particle reduction throughout filter life and at high flow rates (flux).

### Enhanced contaminant holding capacity

- Fewer filter change outs
- Long filter life

### Grooved cartridge with extended surface area

- Promotes fuller utilization of the depth-matrix
- Long filter life

### All-polypropylene construction

- Compatibility in a wide range of applications and operating conditions
- No adhesives, binders, surfactants, lubricants

### Materials of construction

- Complies with European food standard 1935/2004 requirements for food and beverage contact. Please see Ordering Guide for details.
- Approved for use in potable water applications
- Tested and certified by NSF International against NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for material requirements only
- Tested and certified by WQA against NSF/ANSI Standard 61 for material requirements only

### Core-less filter structure

- Ease of disposal via incineration or shredding

### Continuous integral length filter element (up to 40")

- No bond joints to break
- Easy to install

### Consistent Reduction Efficiency

The rigid Micro-Klean™ RT series structure resists deformation, filter by-pass, compression, and particle unloading. This allows Micro-Klean RT series filters to achieve excellent filtration efficiency up to its recommended change-out pressure (35 psid / 2413 mbar), while typical melt blown and wound structures exhibit significant drops in reduction efficiency at much lower differential pressures (10 psid / 689 mbar).

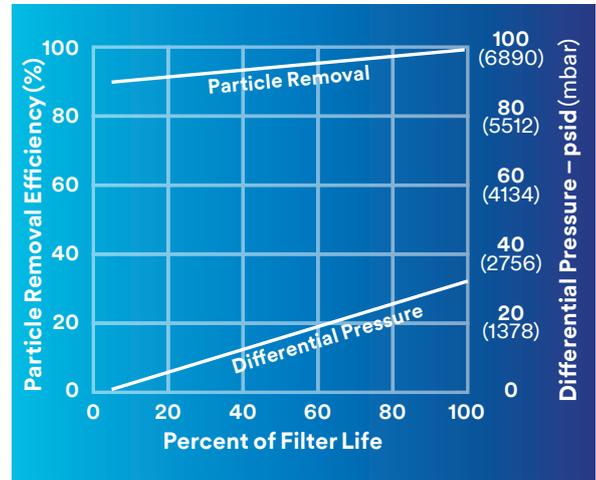
To demonstrate the Micro-Klean RT series filter’s reduction consistency, efficiency at four sampling points 0.5 psid (34 mbar), 1 psid (69 mbar), and 10 psid (689 mbar) was measured on Micro-Klean RT series filters and typical melt blown and wound structures. All equivalently rated filters were tested under the same conditions to enable direct comparison.

As shown in Graph 2, Micro-Klean RT series filters display a stable, consistently higher contaminant reduction throughout the duration of the test. Note that the other melt blown and string wound structures yield erratic reduction and as such can not provide predictable performance, even under controlled conditions of uniform contaminant loading and pressure.

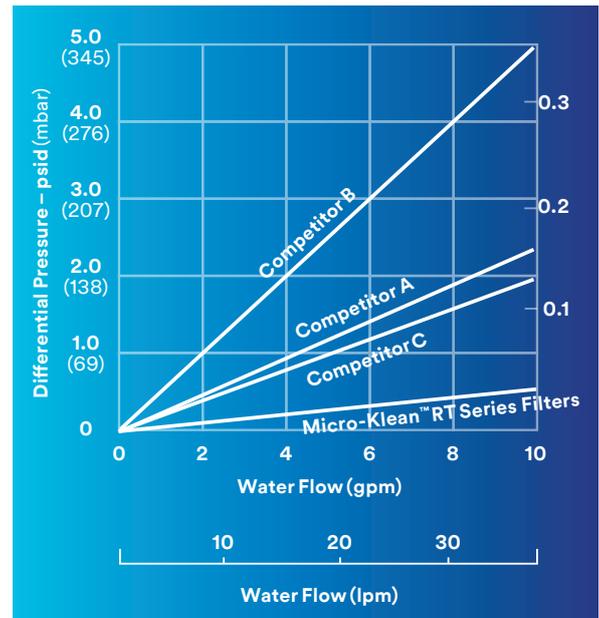
Micro-Klean RT series filters are also capable of delivering consistent particle reduction efficiencies at high fluid flux (flow rate per surface area). This capability is demonstrated in Graph 3 which shows both reduction efficiency and differential pressure results from tests conducted with 25 micron Micro-Klean RT series cartridges at a fluid flux of 18 gpm (68 lpm) per 10 inch length – six times higher than typical design flux for cartridge filters. Because of its rigid structure and high contaminant holding capability, Micro-Klean RT series cartridges are able to maintain high particle reduction efficiencies throughout the life of the filter at this high flux.

This consistent performance capability at high fluid flux makes Micro-Klean RT series an effective solution for systems where smaller housing size is desirable because of physical limitations or budgetary constraints. Utilizing Micro-Klean RT series cartridges at higher flux can also be beneficial for low contaminant load systems.

Graph 3. – Particle Reduction Efficiency at Increased Flux



Graph 4. – Flow vs. Differential Pressure (see note \* in Table 1)



### Lower Initial Differential Pressure

The unique design and construction of the Micro-Klean RT series element allows for significantly lower pressure drop when compared to competitive elements. Graph 4 clearly demonstrates the Micro-Klean RT series flow advantage when compared to other 5 micron rated competitive meltblown and wound cartridges. For a given differential pressure, Micro-Klean RT series filters yield flows up to ten times that of competitive filters. When sizing a system for a given process flow rate, this is a significant advantage and translates into lower capital investment for filter housings and fewer cartridges to purchase. For example, as shown in Table 1, in a process with a water flow rate of 180 gpm (681 lpm) and a maximum clean pressure drop of 0.5 psid (34 mbar), a Micro-Klean™ RT series filter system requires significantly fewer cartridges and smaller filter vessels (compared to competitive filters) for greatly reduced capital costs.

Table 1. – Comparison of 5 Micron Filters in a Water System

Filter	30" Filters Required for a 180 gpm Flow Rate*	Housing Diameter (inches) Required for 30" Double Open End Filters
Micro-Klean™ RT Series Filters	12	12
Competitor A	29	20
Competitor B	60	30
Competitor C	24	16

\*Based on the manufacturers literature piece specification

Table 2. – Micro-Klean™ RT Series Filter Specific Pressure Drop (SPD)

Nominal Rating (µm)	Specific Pressure Drop per 10" Filter (psid/gmp-Cp)	Specific Pressure Drop per 10" Filter (mbar/lmp-Cp)
1	0.073	1.330
5	0.042	0.765
10	0.025	0.455
25	0.015	0.273
50	0.010	0.182
75	0.006	0.109

### Micro-Klean™ RT Series Filter System Sizing

To size a system of Micro-Klean™ RT series filters, flow vs. differential pressure data is provided in Table 2.

To calculate filter's clean pressure drop for Newtonian fluids, use the following formula in conjunction with the Specific Pressure Drop Values. The Specific Pressure Drop values may be effectively used when three of the four variables (Viscosity, Flow, Differential Pressure, and Cartridge Grade) are set. Care must be taken when sizing Micro-Klean RT series filtration systems. Select a filter housing that will accept at least the required number of 10 inch filter elements, and verify that the total system flow does not exceed the maximum housing flow rating.

$$\frac{\text{psid [mbar]}_{\text{clean}}}{\text{clean}} = \frac{\left( \frac{\text{total system}}{\text{gpm [lpm]}} \right) \left( \text{viscosity in Cp} \right) \left( \text{SPD value from Table 2} \right)}{\left( \text{Equivalent number of 10 inch Cartridges in housing} \right)}$$

### Applications

<b>Industrial</b>	Plating, Desalination plants, Pulp & paper, Additives, Process cooling water, Parts Washing, Peroxide, Mechanical seals
<b>Coatings</b>	Resin manufacturers (water & solvent), Trade and architectural paint, Ink
<b>Food &amp; Beverage</b>	Bottled water, Ready-To-Drink Beverages, Soft Drinks, Juice
<b>Oil &amp; Gas</b>	Amine & glycol, Prefiltration in waterflood, Process cooling water, Completion fluid
<b>Chemical</b>	PE-PP, Intermediate grade chemicals, PVC-VCM, Herbicides, Pesticides
<b>Electronics</b>	Printed Circuit Boards, CMP slurries, Electronic Capacitors, Video Displays, Pre-RO, CD/DVD



## Micro-Klean™ RT Series Filter Cartridge Specifications

Table 3. – Micro-Klean™ RT Series Filter Specifications

Construction	
Filter Media, End Connector	Polypropylene
Gaskets & O-ring Options (see ordering guide)	Silicone, Fluorocarbon, EPR, Nitrile, and Polyethylene
Operating Conditions	
Maximum Operating Temperature	176 °F (80 °C)
Maximum Differential Pressure	15 psid @ 176 °F (1.0 bar @ 80 °C) 25 psid @ 140 °F (1.7 bar @ 60 °C) 60 psid @ 68 °F (4.1 bar @ 20 °C)
Recommended Change-out Differential Pressure	35 psid @ 68 °F (2.4 bar @ 20 °C)
Cartridge Dimensions	
Inside Diameter (nominal)	1.1" (28 mm)
Outside Diameter (nominal)	2.6" (66 mm)
Length (nominal) see ordering guide	9 ¾" - 40" (248 - 1016 mm)
Regulatory	
Materials used in the manufacture of Micro-Klean RT series filters meet the requirements of USDA 21 CFR for food and beverage contact Micro-Klean RT series filters have been certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 42 and 61.	

### Chemical Compatibility

The 100% polypropylene construction provides excellent chemical compatibility in many demanding process fluid applications. Compatibility is influenced by process operating conditions. Micro-Klean RT series cartridges should be tested under actual conditions to determine compatibility.

Table 4. – Fluid Compatibility

Chemical	Temperature	Chemical	Temperature	Chemical	Temperature
Acetic Acid 20%	160 °F (71 °C)	Hydrogen Peroxide	100 °F (38 °C)	Sodium Carbonate	160 °F (71 °C)
Alkanolamines	140 °F (60 °C)	Methyl Ethyl Ketone	70 °F (21 °C)	Sodium Hydroxide 70%	160 °F (71 °C)
Ammonium Hydroxide 10%	160 °F (71 °C)	Mineral Oil	70 °F (21 °C)	Sulfuric Acid 20%	160 °F (71 °C)
Beach 5.5%	120 °F (49 °C)	Nitric Acid 20%	120 °F (49 °C)	Sulfuric Acid (70%)	160 °F (71 °C)
Ethylene Glycol	160 °F (71 °C)	Potassium Hydroxide	140 °F (60 °C)	Urea	160 °F (71 °C)

### Application Engineering

3M Separation and Purification Sciences Division, Industrial Products has a global team of market-focused scientists and engineers who excel in supporting and collaborating with end-users. Our technical teams are skilled in performing on-site bench-scale or in-house tests, and relating results to full scale manufacturing operations and optimizing cost of purification. When unique processing problems are encountered, our product and application specialists are equipped to identify solutions using either 3M's broad array of existing products or potentially develop a custom solution for your application.

### Service Worldwide

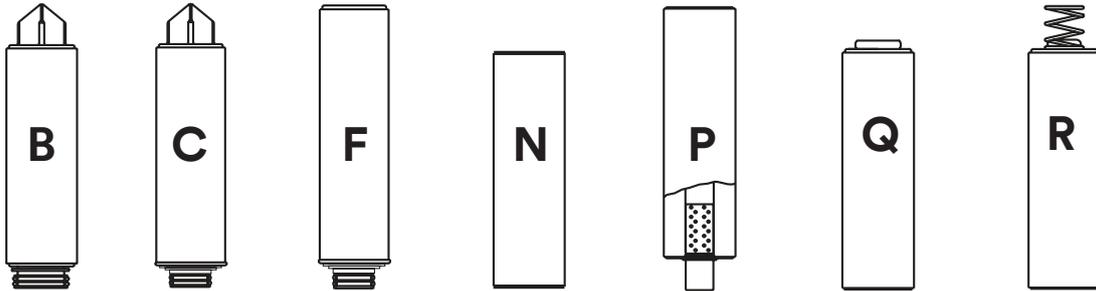
3M Purificaton is a U.S. based multinational company with distribution and manufacturing sites worldwide. Global manufacturing sites together with trained stocking distributors and state-of-the-art laboratory facilities bring quality solutions to challenging filtration applications.



## Micro-Klean™ RT Series Filter Cartridge Ordering Guide

Cartridge Type	Length	Grade	Material	Surface	Packaging	Ring Support	End Modification	Gasket/O-ring
RT – MicroKlean™ RT Series	09 – 9 ¾”* 10 – 10” 19 – 19 ½”* 20 – 20” 29 – 29 ¼”* 30 – 30” 39 – 39” 40 – 40”	Y – 1 µm B – 5 µm C – 10 µm F – 25 µm L – 50 µm Q – 75 µm	16 – Polypropylene	G – Grooved	2 – Bulk	0 – None	B-226 O-ring & Spear C-222 O-ring & Spear F-222 O-ring & Flat Cap N-None P-Polypropylene Core Extender Q-Cap without Spring R-Cap with Spring	A-Silicone B-Fluorcarbon C-EPR D-Nitrile N-None*

\*Available with N, P, Q, or R end modifications only



This Micro-Klean RT series filter is tested and certified by NSF International against NSF/ANSI Standard 42 For Material Requirements Only\*\*



This Micro-Klean RT series filter is tested and certified by WQA against NSF/ANSI Standard 61 For Material Requirements Only\*\*

\*\*For End Treatment “P” consult factory.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Order Guide above is for reference only. Not all combinations are available. Please consult with your 3M representative to determine the appropriate part number for your application.

**Product Selection and Use**

Many factors beyond 3M's control and uniquely within user's knowledge and control can affect the use and performance of a 3M product in a particular application. As a result, customer is solely responsible for evaluating the product and determining whether it is appropriate and suitable for customer's application, including conducting a workplace hazard assessment and reviewing all applicable regulations and standards (e.g., OSHA, ANSI, etc.). Failure to properly evaluate, select, and use a 3M product and appropriate safety products, or to meet all applicable safety regulations, may result in injury, sickness, death, and/or harm to property.

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