

CLAIMS

1. A method for cleaning a ceramic filter,  
comprising:

5 reducing a pressure of a space on a secondary side  
of the uncleaned ceramic filter, while supplying a cleaning  
medium having a temperature of 25 to 450°C to a space on a  
primary side of the uncleaned ceramic filter, thereby  
passing the cleaning medium through the uncleaned ceramic  
filter, so that the uncleaned ceramic filter is cleaned,

10 wherein the pressure in the secondary side space is  
from 0.03 to 50 kPa.

2. The method for cleaning the ceramic filter  
according to claim 1,

15 wherein the cleaning medium comprises at least one  
liquid selected from the group consisting of alcohol,  
ketone, ether and ester, or at least one gas selected from  
the group consisting of steam, an inert gas, an acidic gas  
and a basic gas.

20 ~~3. The method for cleaning the ceramic filter  
according to claim 1 or 2,~~

~~wherein the pressure in the secondary side space is  
from 0.03 to 50 kPa.~~

25 3. The method for cleaning the ceramic filter  
according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the cleaning medium has  
a temperature of 130 to 450°C.

4. The method for cleaning the ceramic filter  
according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the cleaning  
medium can chemically decompose fouling substances.

5      5. The method for cleaning the ceramic filter  
according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the ceramic  
filter comprises a separation membrane selected from the  
group consisting of a zeolite membrane, a carbon membrane,  
a silica membrane or an NF membrane (a nano filter).