

ABSTRACT

MULTI MEMBRANE ELEMENT HOUSING

A housing (1) is disclosed for the containment of multiple membrane separation elements (2) in parallel. The elements (2) are grouped in parallel with a feed/retentate zone, defined by a space enclosed by two tube sheets (3,7) arranged at the same end of the elements (2). Each element (2) has a central mandrel (6) which passes through the feed/retentate zone space, defined by the two tube sheets (3,7) to a permeate collection zone (10) having removal means (12). The tube sheet (3) directly attached to the element is in open relationship with the interior of the membrane element, whereby in use retentate can accumulate in the space (9) between the top tube sheet (3) and the bottom tube sheet (7) and can be removed by removal means (13).

(Fig. 1)