



Reverse Osmosis (RO) Technology

8 – 19 August 2027
Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)



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Introduction:

Reverse Osmosis RO technology plays a crucial role in modern industrial water treatment systems, especially within technical production environments. This course provides a comprehensive understanding of RO systems, their design, operations, and maintenance requirements. Participants will learn the scientific principles behind membrane separation and how RO is used to purify, concentrate, or separate water streams.

The Reverse Osmosis RO Technology program highlights the integration of RO technology in industrial operations to improve system reliability and efficiency. It addresses water quality standards, pre-treatment requirements, and troubleshooting practices. Learners will be introduced to the latest trends and innovations in membrane technology. Attendees will be equipped with practical knowledge to optimize RO system performance across various production settings.

Targeted Groups:

This Reverse Osmosis RO Technology training targets professionals seeking specialized knowledge and skills:

- Technical engineers work in water treatment facilities.
- Production managers oversee utility systems.
- Maintenance technicians are responsible for filtration units.
- Process engineers in chemical, oil & gas, or manufacturing plants.
- Utility supervisors in industrial operations.
- Environmental compliance officers in production environments.
- Plant operators manage reverse osmosis equipment.
- Water system consultants and analysts.
- Quality assurance personnel in water-intensive industries.
- Facility engineers are in charge of sustainable water use systems.

Targeted Competencies:

Participants will gain the following competencies during the Reverse Osmosis RO Technology program:

- Mastery of reverse osmosis fundamentals.
- Ability to assess RO membrane conditions.
- Skills in system design interpretation.
- Practical know-how in system calibration.
- Competence in routine maintenance scheduling.
- Troubleshooting and fault detection proficiency.
- Analytical skills for water quality analysis.
- Capability to manage industrial water systems.
- Competence in performance reporting.
- Strategic thinking in water process optimization.

Course Objectives:

Participants will achieve the following objectives by completing the Reverse Osmosis RO Technology course:

- Understand the basic principles and mechanisms of RO membrane processes.
- Identify and classify various RO system components.
- Analyze the performance of RO systems using technical parameters.
- Apply best practices for system installation, operation, and maintenance.
- Evaluate feed water quality and determine the right pre-treatment strategies.
- Calculate recovery rates and membrane flux for system optimization.
- Diagnose and troubleshoot common operational problems in RO systems.
- Select appropriate cleaning methods for membrane fouling.
- Implement effective monitoring strategies for long-term system performance.
- Develop documentation protocols for system inspection and record-keeping.
- Enhance decision-making in RO system design modifications.
- Apply RO system knowledge to reduce water consumption and operating costs.
- Interpret technical datasheets and manufacturer specifications for RO units.
- Use digital tools to analyze and monitor water treatment performance.
- Ensure environmental compliance through improved water recovery strategies.

Course Content:

Unit 1: Fundamentals of Reverse Osmosis Technology:

- Definition and core principles of reverse osmosis.
- Differences between RO and other filtration methods.
- Key components: membranes, pumps, pressure vessels.
- Osmotic pressure and rejection mechanisms.
- Role of semipermeable membranes in filtration.
- Recovery, rejection, and salt passage explained.
- Common terms used in RO systems.
- Overview of RO applications across industries.

Unit 2: RO System Components and Configuration:

- Description of main hardware: filters, pumps, membranes.
- Function of pre-treatment equipment.
- Membrane types: spiral-wound, hollow fiber, tubular.
- Arrangement of stages and passes in RO units.
- Pressure vessels and their role in RO design.
- Energy recovery devices and their benefits.
- RO skid configuration for modular systems.
- Flow paths and connection layouts in plants.
- System integration within broader water treatment frameworks.

Unit 3: Feed Water Quality and Pre-treatment:

- Types of feedwater sources: brackish, seawater, municipal.
- Identifying key contaminants affecting RO systems.
- Importance of pre-treatment for membrane protection.
- Techniques: filtration, softening, and chemical dosing.
- Scaling and fouling causes in membranes.
- Antiscalant selection and chemical compatibility.
- pH adjustment practices before RO filtration.
- Monitoring silt density index SDI.
- Role of multimedia and cartridge filters.

Unit 4: Membrane Selection and Performance Criteria:

- Properties of polyamide thin-film membranes.
- Selection criteria based on water characteristics.
- Operating pressure and recovery targets.
- Permeate flow and salt rejection benchmarks.
- Membrane lifespan and replacement guidelines.
- Compatibility with cleaning chemicals.
- Role of element testing in membrane selection.
- Using manufacturer datasheets for comparison.

Unit 5: System Design and Engineering Considerations:

- Sizing RO systems based on demand and recovery.
- Key design calculations: flux, flow, and pressure.
- Balancing recovery and concentration ratios.
- Designing for redundancy and scalability.
- Piping and instrumentation diagram P&ID basics.
- Managing backpressure and flow balance.
- Understanding concentrated recirculation.
- Software tools for RO system design.
- Installation standards and mechanical requirements.

Unit 6: Operating and Monitoring RO Systems:

- Start-up and shutdown procedures.
- Pressure, flow, and conductivity monitoring.
- Key performance indicators KPIs tracking.
- Real-time data analysis for system performance.
- Automated vs manual operation controls.
- Sensor calibration and digital logging.
- Online and offline monitoring tools.
- Alarm and interlock settings for safety.

Unit 7: Troubleshooting and Maintenance Best Practices:

- Identifying signs of fouling or scaling.
- Common system failures and root causes.
- Developing routine maintenance schedules.
- Cleaning protocols: CIP procedures step-by-step.
- Membrane autopsy and forensic analysis.
- Guidelines for cartridge and pre-filter replacement.
- Troubleshooting charts and logs.
- Maintaining flow balance and pressure integrity.

Unit 8: Membrane Cleaning and Chemical Handling:

- Principles of chemical cleaning in RO systems.
- Cleaning-in-place CIP system setup.
- Types of cleaning agents and applications.
- Acid vs alkaline cleaning methods.
- Safety practices in chemical handling.
- Scheduling based on differential pressure rise.
- Handling membrane preservation chemicals.
- Flushing procedures after cleaning cycles.

Unit 9: System Optimization and Performance Improvement:

- Techniques to enhance recovery and permeate quality.
- Energy-saving approaches in RO operations.
- Optimization of pre-treatment processes.
- Periodic audits and performance benchmarking.
- Modifying flow rates and pressures efficiently.
- Role of automation in performance improvement.
- Case studies on high-efficiency RO plants.
- Integration with hybrid systems UF, NF.

Unit 10: Environmental Considerations and Compliance:

- Waste stream management and concentrate disposal.
- RO in sustainable water management strategies.
- Minimizing water footprint in industrial settings.
- Local and international water discharge regulations.
- Environmental monitoring for RO plants.
- Water reuse and recycling initiatives.
- Zero liquid discharge ZLD and RO systems.
- Reporting and documentation for compliance.

Final Insights & Key Takeaways:

Reverse Osmosis RO Technology is essential in optimizing water treatment in modern industrial operations. This course equips technical production teams with practical expertise for designing, operating, and maintaining RO systems. Learners will enhance water system efficiency while meeting quality and regulatory standards. By applying the knowledge gained, participants can reduce downtime, save resources, and improve plant sustainability.