

## MEMBRANA receives Technology Innovation Award for PUREMA® high-flux dialysis membrane

**Summary:**

In recognition of developing a best-in-class, next-generation polymer haemodialysis membrane – PUREMA® – and for its overall excellence in technology innovation, MEMBRANA GmbH of Germany has been selected as the recipient of the 2005 Frost & Sullivan Innovation Award in the field of membrane separation for medical applications. This is a truly commendable achievement as this recognition stems from an indepth research analysis of the membrane separations market.

“MEMBRANA GmbH’s all-round contributions toward technology innovation are exemplified by its development of the novel, high-flux PUREMA® dialysis membrane,” says Frost & Sullivan Research Analyst Miriam Nagel. “This synthetic dialysis membrane has demonstrated superior sieving characteristics combined with an optimised biocompatibility profile – an achievement previously unmatched by commercially available haemodialysis membranes.”

Using a unique material produced from Polyether-sulfone (PES) and Polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP), via a breakthrough process termed sieving enhancing technology (S.E.T.), the PUREMA® dialysis membrane effectively accomplishes the critical task of reducing the interaction between the membrane and the soluble and cellular components of blood.

S.E.T. develops a thicker separation layer, more uniform pore distribution and an improved sieving profile, all of which contribute to the membrane’s ability to remove the ‘middle molecular’ weight toxins more selectively without the loss of essential proteins.

Dr Stefan F. Geyler, General Manager, MEMBRANA, commented. “We are delighted to receive this award for PUREMA® especially when the competitive field was so strong. In our clinical studies we have been able to

show that PUREMA® achieves the ultimate in middle molecular clearances, outperforming other products by over 20%. This, together with the widest range of low-molecular weight toxin clearance, combines to achieve superior biocompatibility. It is state of science, that both contribute to improved patient outcome. Thus, setting a new standard of excellence in high-flux dialysis membrane technology”

Frost & Sullivan provides world-class market consulting on emerging high-technology and industrial markets. The prestigious Frost and Sullivan Best Practice Awards are recognized worldwide for applauding outstanding industry achievements in the increasingly competitive global marketplace.

MEMBRANA is the largest independent membrane producer world-wide. One in every five haemodialysis patients is treated using MEMBRANA’s dialysis membranes – a total of more than 20 million treatments per year. Over 800,000 patients every year have heart surgery supported by blood-oxygenation membranes from MEMBRANA. In the field of medical separations MEMBRANA offers a wide range of capillary and flat sheet membranes, particularly for haemodialysis, oxygenation and plasmapheresis. Products include CUPROPHAN®, HEMOPHAN®, SMC®, DIAPES® and PUREMA®, the new synthetic membrane.

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Technology Innovation Award