

EFCE Spotlight Talks

Working Party on
Fluid Separations

26 March
2024

14:00-16:00
CET



TRAYS, PACKINGS, AND DIVIDING WALLS IN DISTILLATION COLUMNS – DESIGN, INNOVATION, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

Despite being the most mature industrial separation technology, still many exciting developments take place in distillation research and development, and not only in academia. In this Spotlight Session, three speakers from industry talk about (1) design of trays and operation of tray columns, (2) latest developments in structured packings and packed columns, and (3) how to design and construct dividing wall columns.

While design of trays and packings is in many academia not a topic of research anymore, industrial developments discussed in this spotlight session show that improved trays and packings can lead to very significant reductions in energy demand, and hence, in CO₂-footprint. Next to developments on internals level, also column configuration changes can help realize dramatic energy savings.

Dividing Wall Columns are a proven technology to save a considerable amount of energy, but even today, opinion persists that dividing wall columns are only a marginal phenomenon in distillation and that even the mechanical challenges are too great to bring dividing wall columns to a wider range of applications. To counter this view, we will present two case studies featuring a packed and a trayed dividing wall column. These case studies will show that for almost every theoretical obstacle to the design of a dividing wall column, a mechanical solution already exists which has also been tested and proven on an industrial scale.

PROGRAM

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| 14:00 | Welcome and introduction
Boelo Schuur, Secretary Working Party on Fluid Separations, EFCE Scientific Vice-President |
| 14:10 | Distillation tray design and operation
Greg Spencer, CEng FICHEM, Koch-Glitsch UK Div. Koch Engineered Solutions Ltd - UK |
| 14:40 | Structured packing, important design aspects and latest product developments
Mario Roza (MSc), President Roza Process Technology Consulting and Retired VP Technology Management and Process Innovation, Sulzer Chemtech |
| 15:10 | Design and construction of dividing wall column distillation processes
Dr. Robin Schulz, Julius Montz GmbH - Germany |
| 15:40 | Discussion and conclusion
Boelo Schuur, Secretary Working Party on Fluid Separations, EFCE Scientific Vice-President |

[REGISTRATION](#)

free of charge but mandatory

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