Instructions for Use (IFU) for Pall SUPRAcap™ 50 Capsules

1. Introduction

The following procedures must be followed for the installation of Pall SUPRAcap 50 capsules. These instructions and the information contained within the product datasheet must be read thoroughly as they contain valuable information gained by extensive experience. It is very important that all instructions are carefully followed and where appropriate they should be incorporated into the end user's standard operating procedures. If some of the procedures do not suit your needs, please consult Pall or your local distributor before finalizing your system.

Use of this product in a manner other than in accordance with Pall's current recommendations may lead to injury or loss. Pall cannot accept liability for such injury or loss.

2. Specifications

The maximum working pressure and temperature can vary between capsule assembly types or filter media. Please check the datasheet and labeling for details, or contact Pall or your local distributor. Please consult Pall for details. Operation outside the specifications and with fluids incompatible with construction materials may cause personal injury and result in damage to the equipment. Incompatible fluids are fluids which chemically attack, soften, stress, attack or adversely affect the materials of construction. Please refer to Pall for exact limits.

3. Receipt of Equipment

Caution: Capsule assemblies are suitable for sterilization by autoclaving. Please check the product label prior to use to ensure product part numbers correspond to the application. If unsure of suitable sterilization method, contact Pall.

1. Store the filter assembly in clean, dry conditions between 0 °C and 30 °C without exposure to irradiation sources like direct sunlight, and wherever practical in the packaging as delivered.
2. Do not remove from packaging until just before installation.
3. Check that the bag or packaging is undamaged prior to use.
4. Ensure that the type of capsule assembly selected is suitable for the application.
5. In addition to the part number, each filter assembly is identified by a unique identification batch and a unique serial number.
6. Shelf life information for various filter media used in SUPRAcap 50 capsules is available. Please refer to Pall for detailed information.

4. Installation and Operation

Before installation, it is essential to verify that the capsule assembly type selected is suitable for the product to be filtered and to follow the appropriate instructions listed below.

4.1 Installation

Install the capsule assembly in-line using compatible connections. Ensure that it is installed in the correct orientation for flow from the inlet to the outlet and is adequately supported. Most capsules have the flow direction indicated on the filter assembly. This product is not suitable for reverse flow applications.

1. If valves and inlet/outlet connectors are protected by plastic caps, the caps should be removed prior to use.
2. Liquid filter capsule assemblies can be positioned in any orientation, providing that effective venting of the filter can be carried out before and during operation.
3. Where a positive pressure exists downstream of the capsule assembly, a sensitive check valve may be needed to prevent back pressure damage due to reverse flow.
4. Where pulsating flow is present, the capsule assembly should be protected by a surge tank or similar device upstream.
5. Where a rapidly closing downstream valve is present, the possibility of pressure pulsing and subsequent filter damage exists. The capsule assembly should be protected by a surge tank or similar device between valve and filter.
6. Depending on the application, rinsing with cold or warm water in a forward flow direction is recommended prior to putting the SUPRAcap 50 capsules into operation. In special cases rinsing can be performed with product or a product-compatible liquid. The recommended rinsing volume is 50 L/m² of filter area for single layer capsules and 100 L/m² for double layer capsules. If unsure of suitable flushing procedures, contact Pall.

4.2 Operation

Caution: Do not remove or attempt to remove the vent valve while the capsule assembly is in use.

All valves, blanking caps or Luer-compatible fittings must be closed during filtration once venting operation has been performed.

4.2.1 Liquid Applications

1. Remove the capsule from bag or protective autoclave wrapping and attach tubing to the inlet.
2. Loosen vent valve and slowly begin to fill the capsule. The valves are operated by rotation. Tighten vent as soon as all excess air escapes the assembly and liquid reaches the level of the vent.
3. Gradually increase flow rate or pressure to the desired value. Do not exceed the maximum operating parameters listed in the specifications section of the product datasheet.
4. When filtration is complete, fluid can be followed by an air purge to minimize hold-up of solution in the assembly.


For information relating to Zone 0/20 Applications, please contact Pall. More information can be obtained through Pall, your local distributor or the Pall website.
5. Sterilization

5.1 Steam In Place

Caution: Pall SUPRAcap 50 capsule filters must not be in-line sterilized.

5.2 Autoclaving

Caution: Please refer to the appropriate Pall product information literature for products which can be autoclaved and the maximum recommended cumulative autoclave exposure time.

Autoclave sterilization procedures are detailed in Pall publication USTR 805. Do not autoclave the capsules in the bag supplied. The vent valve should be opened at least one turn before autoclaving.

6. Filter Assembly Replacement

Capsule assemblies should be replaced in line with the GMP requirements of the process. Where capsule assemblies are used for more than one manufacturing batch, replacements are recommended when the maximum allowable differential pressure has been reached (refer to appropriate Pall datasheet), if the flow rate has become unacceptable or if the cumulative steam life has been reached, whichever occurs first. Discard capsule assembly in accordance with local Health and Safety and Environmental procedures. No attempt should be made to clean disposable capsule assemblies.

7. Scientific and Laboratory Services

Pall operates a technical service to assist in the application of all filter products. This service is readily available to you and we welcome your questions so that we can help. In addition, a full network of technical representatives is available throughout the world.

Technical Addendum for Atex 94/9/EC Pall Encapsulated Filter Assemblies

Installation and maintenance should be undertaken by a competent person. National and local codes of practice, environmental regulations and Health & Safety directives must be adhered to and take precedence over any stated or implied practices within this document.

For fluids having low conductivity, there exists the possibility of the generation of static electricity during use with all polymeric components. This could potentially lead to a static electricity discharge resulting in the ignition of a potentially explosive atmosphere where such an atmosphere is present. These Pall products are not suitable for use with such low conductivity fluids in an environment that includes flammable liquids or a potentially explosive atmosphere.

Where flammable or reactive fluids are being processed through a Pall capsule assembly, the user should ensure that spillages during filling, venting, depressurizing, draining and capsule change operations are minimized, contained or directed to a safe area. In particular, the user should ensure that flammable fluids are not exposed to surfaces at a temperature that may ignite the fluid, and that reactive fluids cannot contact incompatible materials that may lead to reactions generating heat, flame or that are otherwise undesirable.

Pall capsule assemblies do not generate heat, but during the processing of high temperature fluids, including steam sterilization operations and process upset conditions, it will take on the temperature of the fluid being processed. The user should ensure that this temperature is acceptable for the area in which the filter is to be operated, or that suitable protective measures are employed. When processing flammable fluids, the user should ensure that any air is fully purged from within the assembly during filling and subsequent operation to prevent the formation of a potentially flammable or explosive vapor/air mixture inside the equipment. This can be achieved through careful venting of the assembly or system as detailed in the user instructions.

To prevent damage or degradation which may result in leakage of fluids from this equipment it is imperative that the end user check the suitability of all materials of construction (including seals on the connections where appropriate) with the process fluid and conditions. The user should ensure that the assembly is regularly inspected for damage and leaks, which should be promptly corrected, and that seals (where appropriate) are renewed after every capsule change.

Leakage of flammable or reactive fluids from this assembly, arising through incorrect installation or damage to the equipment (including any seals), may generate a source of ignition if flammable fluids are exposed to a heated surface, or if reactive fluids contact incompatible materials that may lead to reactions generating heat, flame or that are otherwise undesirable. The user should ensure that the assembly is regularly inspected for damage and leaks, which should be promptly corrected, and that any seals are renewed after every filter change.

The user should ensure that these products are protected from foreseeable mechanical damage that might cause such leakage, including impact and abrasion.

Regular cleaning with an anti-static material is required to avoid the build up of dust on the filter assembly.

Should you have any questions, please contact your local Pall office or distributor.