

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910781952003321
Titolo	Membrane engineering for the treatment of gases [[electronic resource] ] . Volume 2 Gas-separation problems combined with membrane reactors // edited by Enrico Drioli and Giuseppe Barbieri
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, : RSC Pub., 2011
ISBN	1-84973-348-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (345 p.)
Collana	Membrane engineering for the treatment of gases ; ; v. 2
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Disciplina	660.2842 660.28424
Soggetti	Gas separation membranes
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	i-iv; v-viii; ix-xx; 1-39; 40-86; 87-109; 110-136; 137-161; 162-191; 192-222; 223-252; 253-278; 279-301; 302-324
Sommario/riassunto	Membranes already have important applications in artificial organs, the processing of biotechnological products, food manufacture, waste water treatment, and seawater desalination. Their uses in gaseous mixture separations are, however, far from achieving their full potential. Separation of air components, natural gas dehumidification and sweetening, separation and recovery of CO <sub>2</sub> from biogas, and H <sub>2</sub> from refinery gases are all examples of current industrial applications. The use of membranes for reducing the greenhouse effect and improving energy efficiency has also been suggested. New process