steady state

in liquid-liquid distribution

The state of a continuous process when it is operating in such a way that the concentration of solutes in exit streams remains constant with respect to time for constant feed concentrations, even though the two phases are not necessarily in thermodynamic equilibrium in any part of the process. The term equilibrium should not be used to describe this situation.

Source:

PAC, 1993, 65, 2373 (Nomenclature for liquid-liquid distribution (solvent extraction) (IUPAC Recommendations 1993)) on page 2390