

## PFAS Statement

Dear Customer,

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the use of materials with perfluorinated and polyfluorinated alkyl compounds (PFAS) in our products. We take this issue very seriously and would like to provide you with comprehensive information.

### Background to the PFAS ban in the European Union:

The European Union is planning a far-reaching ban on PFAS due to concerns about the environmental impact and potential health risks of these substances. PFAS are known as "forever chemicals" due to their chemical stability and slow degradation. These chemicals can accumulate in the environment and enter the food chain, with potentially harmful effects on humans and the environment.

### What does this mean for our products and materials?

Due to these restrictions, all PTFE-based materials and certain plastics such as FEP and PFA could be affected in the future. Some elastomers, including FPM, FFKM, FVMQ and others, could also be affected as they are also known as fluoropolymers.

### Are there already PFAS-free alternatives?

There are currently no PFAS-free alternatives available that have exactly the same properties as PFAS-containing products. PFAS-free materials exist, but often have different properties and may not be suitable for all applications. Industry representatives from across the plastics industry are actively endeavoring to develop sustainable solutions and examine alternatives.

### Current status and next steps:

The proposal for an EU-wide PFAS ban was submitted by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) in February 2023. This proposal is currently undergoing a public consultation in which all stakeholders, including manufacturers and end users, can submit comments until September 2023. At the end of this consultation period, ECHA will draw up a final proposal on which the EU Commission will decide. The exact date for the implementation of the ban is currently still unclear.

Up-to-date information on ECHA's timetable and next steps can be found on ECHA's website  
<https://echa.europa.eu/nl/-/echa-receives-pfass-restriction-proposal-from-five-national-authorities>.

### Our preparations and your contact with us:

Although we are not directly involved in the current consultation phase, we are following the PFAS debate closely and are actively exchanging information with our suppliers and partners.

We are keeping our eyes open for viable alternatives and have already started to identify possible substitutes for some products and applications. This process requires close collaboration along the entire supply chain in order to validate new options and make them available to our customers.

We understand that you may have further questions or concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to help you with these changes and find solutions that meet your needs.