PFAS UPDATE
"per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances"

28.11.2025

General declaration

PFAS (per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances) stands for a group of several thousand individual chemicals that are based on a carbon/fluorine compound [C-F]. The fluorocarbon compound is one of the strongest single compounds in chemistry and is characterized by excellent chemical resistance, high temperature resistance and heat resistance.

PFAS are known as "persistent" chemicals because they can be detected in our environment and in our bodies for a very long time. They can lead to health problems such as liver damage, thyroid disease, obesity, fertility problems and cancer.

Over the past three years, the authorities of the five participating countries have investigated various PFAS, their uses and the risks they may pose to humans and the environment and have presented them in a comprehensive scientific assessment as a proposal for a restriction of PFAS.

What this means for the TKD group

Today, the TKD Group also offers **fluoroplastics**, which are used in cables and wires (as insulation or sheathing material) for extreme applications (high temperature and chemical resistance) due to their unique combination of properties. Some of the most commonly used **fluoroplastics are ETFE, FEP, PFA and PTFE**.
These materials would therefore be subject to a possible PFAS restriction, which, however, will apparently not come into force until 2025 at the earliest. The extent and scope of a possible restriction are still being clarified.

Comprehensive proposal for the restriction of PFAS in the EU (Restriction phases)

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The risks arising from the manufacture, placing on the market or use of PFAS are currently not adequately controlled.

In the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, the European Commission has therefore announced a comprehensive package of measures to address the use of PFAS and the resulting contamination.

The restriction of the entire group of PFAS in the EU chemicals regulation REACH (Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006) is part of this package of measures. The proposal submitted for the restriction of PFAS is one of the first since the introduction of the REACH Regulation.

Next steps

ECHA's Scientific Committees for Risk Assessment (RAC) and for Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC) started in March 2023 to assess whether the proposed restriction meets the legal requirements of REACH. If this is the case, the committees will start the scientific evaluation of the proposal.

As soon as the opinions have been completed, they are forwarded to the European Commission. The Commission will then decide on **a possible restriction** together with the EU member states. The restriction **will therefore come into force in 2026/2027 at the earliest**. The UBA is in favor of the proposal being examined swiftly and implemented as comprehensively as possible.

All documents and the status of the procedure can be viewed on the ECHA website.

Updates about this topic are published here: All news - ECHA

The TKD Group already offers alternatives for high-temperature applications up to 180°C based on silicone materials or cross-linked materials that are not subject to PFAS material classification.

Our experts will be happy to clarify for you whether it always has to be a material based on a fluorine compound.

Good to know:

Our high-quality TKD KABEL **ELITRONIC®-, PAARTRONIC®-, KAWEFLEX® -, REELTEC® -, FESTOONTEC® -, LIFTTEC® -, FLAME-, 2-NORM- or ÖPVC series** based on PUR, PVC or TPE materials are also **not** subject **to PFAS material classification** and will therefore **not be affected by a possible restriction.**

We will be happy to help you find the right product for your application.

Get in touch with us - your customer satisfaction is our top priority.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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