

Declaration of PFAS and their derivatives

What are PFAS

Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals that are defined as containing at least one fully fluorinated methyl or methylene carbon atom, that includes perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS) and other substances. There are thousands of different PFAS, and some are widely used in consumer products such as textiles, electronics, paper coatings, paints, fire-fighting foams, and ski wax since the 1940s for their properties of being oil and water-resistant, flame resistant, high chemical, physical, and temperature resistance. They are biologically, chemically, and thermally extremely stable as well as water and grease repellent. PFASs are called “the forever chemicals” because the carbon-fluorine bond is extremely strong and stable, which makes PFASs hard to break down.

Regulations

PFHxS, PFOA, PFOS falling under the Stockholm Convention and are known as Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). The contributing countries have implemented restrictions to reduce or eliminate these substances. PFOA and PFOS have been prohibited and replaced with other less toxic substances in recent years in the European Union. Other common PFAS such as PFCA, PFHxS, PFBS, and PFNA are restricted in EU.

Schaffner Statement

Schaffner products do not contain, and production does not process PFAS. Polymers based on PFOA and C9-C14 PFCAs, their salts affected polymers such as PTFE (“Teflon”), ETFE (“Tefzel”) and PVDF (Polyvinylidene Fluoride) will not be applied by Schaffner unless explicitly specified by the customer.

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