

Dear Sir or Madam,

item Industrietechnik GmbH has issued a statement on the presence of PFAS (per- and polyfluorinated chemicals) in our products.

There are more than 4000 different PFAS, but only a few of them are regulated. Many PFAS are classified as PBT substances (persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic). Because of these properties and the potential for long-range environmental transport, they meet the criteria of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), also known as the Stockholm Convention or POPs Convention. The Stockholm Convention is a global agreement, binding under international law, on prohibition and restriction measures for the world's most hazardous chemical substances. However, of the several thousand PFASs currently in use, only PFOS and PFOA are regulated worldwide.

Some PFAS are already classified as Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic substances (PBT for short) and are known in Europe, but their use is also only partially regulated.

- Decabromodiphenyl ether (Deca BDE) is already represented in RoHS and REACH,
- Hexachlorobutadiene (HCBD) in the POP Regulation of the Stockholm Convention.

Many of the remaining substances are on ECHA's so-called CoRAP list. These are listed in the Community Rolling Action Plan and are considered hot candidates for the SVHC list, but are not yet officially listed. This means that they are not considered in supplier requests for REACH, RoHS, POPs and the like.

Especially these three chemical groups,

- Phenol, isopropylated phosphate 3:1; PIP 3:1
- 2,4,6-Tris(tert-butyl)phenol; 2,4,6-TTBP
- Pentachlorothiophenol; PCTP

which are not yet restricted in Europe, could be contained in corresponding products of item GmbH. However, they are neither necessary for functionality nor for the manufacturing process.

PFAS are water, grease and dirt repellent as well as chemically and thermally stable. Due to these properties, they are used in numerous consumer products such as cosmetics, cookware, paper coatings, textiles or ski waxes. PFAS are also used for the surface treatment of metals and plastics, in pesticides or fire extinguishing agents.

In general, it can be assumed that all metallic items are unproblematic. Possibly, the use of colours in powder coatings and wet paints still needs to be investigated.

Soft plastics and products containing lubricants could be particularly critical. There is also a potential risk of PFAS in electrical products.

According to our current knowledge and the information we receive from our suppliers, we are not aware of any product containing PFAS chemicals in an amount of more than 0.1 mass percent (according to REACH) and the occurrence of non-regulated PFAS substances is not known.

We would be pleased to check a corresponding bill of materials for PFAS and to involve our suppliers if necessary.

Yours sincerely  
item Industrietechnik GmbH  
Dipl.-Ing. M. Allwicher



Stephan Buchmann  
Managing Director  
Solingen, August 2023