

Information on Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

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Dear Sir or Madam,

From time to time, our customers ask us to comment on topics relating to sustainability.

“Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large class of thousands of synthetic chemicals that are used throughout society. However, they are increasingly detected as environmental pollutants and some are linked to negative effects on human health. They all contain carbon-fluorine bonds, which are one of the strongest chemical bonds in organic chemistry. This means that they resist degradation when used and also in the environment. Most PFAS are also easily transported in the environment covering long distances away from the source of their release. PFAS have been frequently observed to contaminate groundwater, surface water and soil. Cleaning up polluted sites is technically difficult and costly. If releases continue, they will continue to accumulate in the environment, drinking water and food.”

This is the explanation provided by ECHA (European Chemicals Agency) on its website <https://echa.europa.eu/hot-topics/perfluoroalkyl-chemicals-pfas>, where further information is given.

Nevertheless, PFAS can still be found in many everyday products. Many PFAS groups are already banned globally or restricted in the EU, for example in Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (“REACH Regulation”). In the beginning of 2023, a proposal by five European countries to restrict all PFAS was published. As the application of PFAS is very broad, numerous products and thus industrial sectors are affected. These include semiconductors, cables, connectors, batteries, electrical drives, measurement technology and many more. Consequently, a number of associations and initiatives are currently concerned with the necessity and feasibility of corresponding regulations.

We at Jola are constantly following these efforts. As soon as concrete drafts are available, we will assess how we are affected and then derive appropriate measures. It can be assumed that in the case of bans or restrictions, the industry will be granted reasonable implementation times and that technical innovation will lead to new solutions. We will then, of course, consistently replace the affected components with new, unproblematic ones.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our [sales department](#):

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Yours faithfully,

Lars Mattil
(Managing Director)



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