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PFOA now in REACH and POP regulation

Europe-wide ban on PFOA since 4 July 2020

Berlin, 6 July 2020 – On 4 July, PFOA - perfluorooctanoic acid, its salts and precursor compounds - was included in the [POP \(Persistent Organic Pollutants\) Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1021](#) and at the same time also came into force in the REACH Regulation (Annex XVII, entry 68). FBDi association points out, that both regulations apply to PFOA with immediate effect, but for affected applications (mentioned in both regulations) the phase-out dates and limit values under the stricter POP Regulation apply. It aims to completely remove a substance identified as POP from the substance cycle by means of a ban. This also applies to regulations on storage. The deletion of entry 68 in Annex XVII of REACH is currently under discussion, but has not yet been published in the German Amtsblatt ('Official Journal').

The Europe-wide ban regulates the production, marketing, use, placing on the market and import of PFOA as such, but also in products. The substance is toxic to the human liver - it is absorbed through the air, dust, food or contaminated drinking water - and damages reproduction. Because PFOA and its precursors give surfaces water, oil and dirt repellent properties, they have spread to all environmental compartments. Moreover, PFOA is extremely stable and does not degrade in the environment, so it accumulates in living organisms.

Effective immediately, limits of 0.025 mg/kg for PFOA and 1 mg/kg for PFOA precursors according to POP apply. There are longer transition periods, of which the following exceptions are relevant for distribution:

- The applications / uses / products named under exception 5: Until 04 July 2025
- The applications / uses / products mentioned under exception 9: Until 03 December 2020

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About FBDI e. V. (www.fbdi.de):

The FBDI e.V. – Fachverband der Bauelemente Distribution e.V. (Professional Association of Component Distribution), founded in 2003, is well-established in the

German association community and represents a large portion of distributors of electronic components with operations in Germany. In addition to the preparation and advancement of numerical data and statistics concerning the German distribution market for electronic components, work group engagement and reporting on important industry themes (amongst others, education, liability and rights, traceability, and environmental themes) form essential pillars of the association's work. The FBDi is a member of the International Distribution of Electronics Association (IDEA).

Member companies (as per January 2020):

Regular members: Acal BFi Germany; Arrow Europe; Avnet EMG EMEA; Beck Elektronische Bauelemente; Blume Elektronik Distribution; Bürklin Elektronik; CODICO; Conrad Electronic; Distrelec; Ecomal Europe; Endrich Bauelemente; EVE; Future Electronics Deutschland; Glyn; Gudeco Elektronik; Haug Components Holding; Hy-Line Holding; JIT electronic; Kruse Electronic Components; MB Electronic; MEDI Kabel; Memphis Electronic; Menges Electronic; MEV Elektronik Service; mewa electronic; Mouser Electronics; Neumüller Elektronik GmbH; pk components; Pülpichhuisen; RS Components; Rutronik Elektronische Bauelemente; Ryosan Europe; Schukat electronic; TTI Europe.

Supporting members: TDK Europe, Recom.

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