

### PFAS-Regulation

Frenzelit product information: see last paragraph

PFAS is a general term for so-called “per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances”. This group contains all chemical molecules, that contain at least one fully fluorinated carbon atom (-CF<sub>3</sub> or -CF<sub>2</sub>-group). Due to this extremely broad definition, “PFAS” is a very large group of more than 4000 chemicals, that can vary significantly in structure and properties. Many chemicals from the PFAS-group are persistent and therefore have negative influences on the environment. These substances are often referred to as “forever chemicals” and can only be decomposed very slowly or not at all, which leads to their accumulation in the environment.

Some substances within this group of molecules have already been banned due to their hazardous and persistent effect. The use of perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) and perfluorooctanic acid (PFOA) has already been prohibited years ago by the EU-POP-restriction (persistent organic pollutants). A few other PFAS-substances are already covered by the REACH-regulation. Use and placing on the market of further long-chained, perfluorated carbonic acids with 9 to 14 Carbon-atoms (C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>14</sub> PFCA), as well as their salts and precursors is limited by the REACH-regulation since February 2023.

Already today, Frenzelit can confirm, that none of these regulated substances is used as an ingredient in our products or during production.

On July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the five member states Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and Norway submitted a proposal for a general, EU-wide ban on all PFAS chemicals. On February 7<sup>th</sup>, a restriction proposal designed by these five countries has been published, which contains a detailed proposal for the PFAS-ban. On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, a 6 month long public consultation phase starts, in which affected companies that produce or use PFAS-containing substances have the possibility to submit relevant information.

The current restriction proposal includes a complete ban of all substances within the PFAS-group, including also fluoropolymers like PTFE or FPM. So far, only very few exceptions are planned, for example for active substances in human or animal pharmaceuticals, biocides, or pesticides. The proposal contains two possible restriction options. Option 1 (RO1) is significantly stricter and describes a full ban of all PFAS-substances already 18 months after the ban is coming into effect, so possibly as early as the end of 2025. Option 2 (RO2), which is currently considered to be more likely, also describes a ban of all PFAS-substances after 18 months. However, this case includes additional extended, time-limited and use-specific transition periods of 5 or 12 years, depending on the area of application. Such extensions are for example planned for food packaging, fuel cell membranes or certain refrigerants and cooling agents. After the end of the public consultation, there will be another consultation phase, after which a final decision will be made.

## TechInfo

However, we can already at this stage we can confirm that, regardless of what the PFAS-ban will look like in its final form, our core product range will not be affected by the regulations. This includes, among others, the product groups novapress®, novaphit®, novamica®, isoplan®, novaplan®, isoGLAS® or isoTHERM®. Products, that are currently equipped with PTFE-coatings can optionally already be obtained with PFAS-free antistick coatings. Already today, a large part of applications in which PTFE is currently used can be replaced with our high-performance product families (e.g., novapress® or novaphit®). More detailed information on the chemical resistance of our products can be found at [www.novadisc.de/en](http://www.novadisc.de/en).

In case of questions, please contact us:

[gaskets@frenzelit.com](mailto:gaskets@frenzelit.com), Phone: +49 9273 72-419

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