

# EU POPs regulations intend to add PFOA, Dicofof restrictions

In November 2019, the official website of the European Union released a series of (EU) 2019/1021 (POPs) revision drafts, which intends to add PFOA and its salts and related compounds, Dicofof restrictions in Part A of Annex I of the POPs Regulations, and amend the PFOS Limitation requirements. All three drafts come into effect 20 days after the official publication of the Official Journal of the European Union, and the restrictions on PFOA are expected to be implemented on July 4, 2020. The details are as follows:

The following substances are proposed to be added to Part A of Annex I:

Substance	CAS No	EC No	Specific exemption on intermediate use or other specification
Dicofof	115-32-2	204-082-0	None
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds “Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds” means the following: (I)perfluorooctanoic acid, including any of its branched isomers; (II)its salts; (III)PFOA-related compounds which, for the purposes of the	335-67-1 and others	206-397-9a and others	<p>1. For the purposes of this entry, point (b) of Article 4(1) shall apply to concentrations of PFOA or any of its salts equal to or below 0,025 mg/kg (0,0000025 % by weight) where they are present in substances, mixtures or articles.</p> <p>2. For the purposes of this entry, point (b) of Article 4(1) shall apply to concentrations of any individual PFOA-related compound or a combination of PFOA-related compounds equal to or below 1 mg/kg (0,0001 % by weight) where they are present in substances, mixtures or articles.</p> <p>3. For the purposes of this entry, point (b) of Article 4(1) shall apply to concentrations of PFOA-related compounds equal to or below 20 mg/kg (0,002 % by</p>



<p>Convention, are any substances that degrade to PFOA, including any substances (including salts and polymers) having a linear or branched perfluoroheptyl group with the moiety (C<sub>7</sub>F<sub>15</sub>)C as one of the structural elements.</p> <p>The following compounds are not included as PFOA-related compounds:</p> <p>(I)C<sub>8</sub>F<sub>17</sub>-X, where X= F, Cl, Br;</p> <p>(II)fluoropolymers that are covered by CF<sub>3</sub>[CF<sub>2</sub>]<sub>n</sub>-R', where R'=any group, n&gt;16;</p> <p>(III)perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids (including their salts, esters, halides and anhydrides) with ≥8 perfluorinated carbons;</p> <p>(IV)perfluoroalkane</p>			<p>weight) where they are present in a substance to be used as a transported isolated intermediate within the meaning of Article 3 point 15 (c) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 and fulfilling the strictly controlled conditions set out in Article 18(4)(a) to (f) of that Regulation for the production of fluorochemicals with a carbon chain equal to or shorter than 6 atoms. This exemption shall be reviewed and assessed by the Commission by [... Publications Office: please insert date that is 3 years after entry into force of this amending Regulation].</p> <p>4. For the purposes of this entry, point (b) of Article 4(1) shall apply to concentrations of PFOA and its salts equal to or below 1 mg/kg (0,0001 % by weight) where they are present in polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) micropowders produced by gamma irradiation of up to 400 kilograys. All emissions of PFOA during the manufacture and use of PTFE micropowders shall be avoided and, if not possible, reduced as far as possible. This exemption shall be reviewed and assessed by the Commission by [... Publications Office: please insert date that is 3 years after entry into force of this amending Regulation].</p> <p>5. By way of derogation, the manufacturing, placing on the market and use of PFOA, its salts and PFOA-related compounds shall be allowed for the following purposes:</p>
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<p>sulfonic acids and perfluoro phosphonic acids (including their salts, esters, halides and anhydrides) with <math>\geq 9</math> perfluorinated carbons; (V)perfluorooctane sulfonic acid and its derivatives (PFOS), as listed in Annex I .</p>			<p>(a) photolithography or etch processes in semiconductor manufacturing, until 4 July 2025;</p> <p>(b) photographic coatings applied to films, until 4 July 2025;</p> <p>(c) textiles for oil- and water-repellency for the protection of workers from dangerous liquids that comprise risks to their health and safety, until 4 July 2023;</p> <p>(d) invasive and implantable medical devices, until 4 July 2025;</p> <p>(e) manufacture of polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) and polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF) for the production of:</p> <p>(I)high-performance, corrosion-resistant gas filter membranes, water filter membranes and membranes for medical textiles,</p> <p>(II)industrial waste heat exchanger equipment,</p> <p>(III) industrial sealants capable of preventing leakage of volatile organic compounds and PM2.5 particulates, until 4 July 2023.</p> <p>6. By way of derogation, the use of PFOA, its salts and PFOA-related compounds shall be allowed in fire-fighting foam for liquid fuel vapour suppression and liquid fuel fire (Class B fires) in installed systems, including both mobile and fixed systems, until 4 July 2025, subject to the following conditions:</p> <p>(a) fire-fighting foam that contains or may contain PFOA, its salts and/or PFOA-related compounds shall</p>
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		<p>not be used for training;</p> <p>(b) fire-fighting foam that contains or may contain PFOA, its salts and/or PFOA-related compounds shall not be used for testing unless all releases are contained;</p> <p>(c) by the end of 2022, uses of fire-fighting foam that contains or may contain PFOA, its salts and/or PFOA-related compounds shall be restricted to sites where all releases can be contained;</p> <p>(d) fire-fighting foam stockpiles and wastes that contain or may contain PFOA, its salts and/or PFOA-related compounds shall be managed in accordance with Article 5 and 7, respectively.</p> <p>7. By way of derogation, the use of perfluorooctyl bromide containing perfluorooctyl iodide for the purpose of producing pharmaceutical products shall be allowed, subject to review and assessment by the Commission at the latest by 31 December 2036.</p> <p>8. Use of articles already in use in the Union before 4 July 2020 containing PFOA, its salts and/or PFOA-related compounds shall be allowed. Article 4(2), third and fourth subparagraphs shall apply in relation to such articles.”</p>
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At the same time, PFOS restriction requirements are to be revised as follows:

In Part A of Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2019/1021, in the entry for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid and its derivatives (PFOS), in the fourth column (“Specific exemption on intermediate use or other specification”), point 4 is amended as follows:

(1) the first paragraph is replaced by the following:

“4. If the quantity released into the environment is minimised, manufacturing and placing on the market shall be allowed until [date of entry into force of this amending Regulation + 5 years] for use as mist suppressant for non-decorative hard chromium (VI) plating in closed loop systems. Provided that those Member States where PFOS is used report to the Commission by [date of entry into force of this amending Regulation + 4 years] on progress made to eliminate PFOS and justify the continuing need for this use, the Commission shall review the need for a prolongation of the derogation for this use of PFOS for a maximum of five years by [date entry into force of this amending Regulation + 5 years].”

(2) the third paragraph is deleted.

Original link: [Document Ares\(2019\)7227996](#); [Document Ares\(2019\)6890180](#); [Document Ares\(2019\)7345999](#)

## HCT SOLUTION:

According to experience, almost all the directives and draft regulations issued by the European Union have been passed and successfully implemented, so the revision of the POPs regulations can be implemented smoothly if without accident. POPs regulations are universal regulations for products exported to Europe, if companies violate the restrictions of POPs regulations, they may face the risks of fines, recalls, and imprisonment. Therefore, relevant companies should pay close attention to the subsequent updates of POPs regulations and adjust production processes in time to ensure that Product compliance.

HCT has a professional technical team and rich experience in the control of restricted substances. It can develop personalized solutions for customers and help companies cope with various technical barriers.

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