



REACH Annex XVII adds new restrictions on undecafluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)

On September 20, 2024, the EU Official Gazette published Regulation (EU) 2024/2462 amending the REACH Regulation, which amended Annex XVII of the EU REACH Regulation and added Entry 79 on undecafluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA), its salts and related substances. This regulation will be officially implemented 20 days from the date of publication in the EU Official Gazette. The specific restrictions are as follows:

<p>'79.Undecafluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA), its salts and PFHxA-related substances:</p> <p>(a)having a linear or branched perfluoropentyl group with the formula C_5F_{11}- directly attached to another carbon atom as one of the structural elements; or</p> <p>(b)having a linear or branched perfluorohexyl group with the formula C_6F_{13}-.</p> <p>The following substances are excluded from this designation:</p> <p>(a)C_6F_{14};</p> <p>(b)$C_6F_{13}-C(=O)OH$, $C_6F_{13}-C(=O)O-X'$ or $C_6F_{13}-CF_2-X'$ (where X' = any group, including salts);</p> <p>(c)any substance having a perfluoroalkyl group C_6F_{13}- directly attached to an oxygen atom at one of the non-terminal carbon atoms.</p>	<p>1.Shall not, from 10 October 2026 be placed on the market, or used, in a concentration equal to or greater than 25 ppb for the sum of PFHxA and its salts, or 1 000 ppb for the sum of PFHxA-related substances, measured in homogeneous material, in the following:</p> <p>(a)textiles, leather, furs and hides in clothing and related accessories for the general public;</p> <p>(b)footwear for the general public;</p> <p>(c)paper and cardboard used as food contact materials within the scope of Regulation (EC) No 1935/2004;</p> <p>(d)mixtures for the general public;</p> <p>(e)cosmetic products as defined in Article 2(1), point (a), of Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009.</p> <p>2. Shall not, from 10 October 2027 be placed on the market, or used, in a concentration equal to or greater than 25 ppb for the sum of PFHxA and its salts, or 1 000 ppb for the sum of PFHxA-related substances, measured in homogeneous material, in textiles, leather, furs and hides, other than in clothing and related accessories referred to in paragraph 1, for the general public.</p> <p>3.Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply to the following:</p> <p>(a)personal protective equipment intended to protect users against risks within the scope of risk category III, points (a), (c) to (f), (h), and (l) of Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2016/425;</p> <p>(b)devices within the scope of Regulation (EU) 2017/745;</p> <p>(c)devices within the scope of Regulation (EU) 2017/746;</p> <p>(d)textiles used as construction textiles.</p>
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4.Shall not, from 10 April 2026 be placed on the market, or used, in a concentration equal to or greater than 25 ppb for the sum of PFHxA and its salts, or 1 000 ppb for the sum of PFHxA-related substances, in:

(a) firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates for training and for testing, except functional testing of the firefighting systems provided that all releases are contained;

(b) firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates for public fire services, except where those services intervene at industrial fires at establishments covered by Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council and they use the foams and the equipment for that purpose only.

5.Shall not, from 10 October 2029 be placed on the market, or used, in firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates for civil aviation (including in civilian airports) in a concentration equal to or greater than 25 ppb for the sum of PFHxA and its salts, or 1 000 ppb for the sum of PFHxA-related substances.

6.Paragraphs 1, 2, 4 and 5 shall not apply to substances having a perfluoroalkyl group C_6F_{13} - directly attached to a sulphur atom that are prohibited in Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2019/1021 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

7.By way of derogation from paragraph 1, that paragraph shall not apply to articles and mixtures which were placed on the market before 10 October 2026.

8.By way of derogation from paragraph 2, that paragraph shall not apply to articles which were placed on the market before 10 October 2027.

9.For the purposes of this entry, PFHxA-related substances are substances that, based on their molecular structure, are considered to have the potential to degrade or be transformed to PFHxA.





PFHxA are a class of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFHxA substances are considered has potential adverse effects on human health and the environment. They are widely used in many industries such as paper and paperboard (food contact materials), textiles such as personal protective equipment, home textiles and clothing, and firefighting foams.

Original link: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ%3AL_202402462&qid=1726811591952

HCT SOLUTION:

With the EU's official restriction on the use of undecafluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA), its salts and related substances, it marks another PFAS substance banned by the EU, which means that companies must take corresponding control measures to comply with new regulatory requirements. Water Inspection Group Rainbow Testing Technology Co., Ltd. has been tracking and interpreting the latest international and domestic regulatory trends for a long time. It has many top instruments and equipment, a professional and efficient operation team and rich inspection and testing experience. It can develop personalized solutions for customers and help companies respond calmly.

