

May 8, 2024

Statement: Fluoropolymers & PFAS Legislation

Dear Valued Customer,

Wyatt Seal, Inc. continues to monitor the development of legislation regarding Fluoropolymers and PFAS, partnering with our supply chain to understand the short-term and long-term effects on seal technologies and the industries to which we distribute. This potential legislation would impact materials including, but not limited to: FKM, FFKM, PTFE, Fluorosilicone, and Alfas seals, as well as internally lubed O-rings. These materials are vital to seals serving a broad range of industries including transportation, medical, construction, oil and gas, and everyday usage; furthermore, they comprise over 50% of our inventory sealing product line.

The presence of Fluoropolymers and PFAS in the water supply has been a driving force for legislative initiatives. Domestically, Maine passed legislation in January 2023 to monitor and report the presence of PFAS for those doing business in their state. On April 10, 2024, the EPA initiated the National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) establishing legally enforceable levels, called Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL), for six PFAS in drinking water. This will have a three-year monitoring timeline with 2027 initiating public reporting of PFAS in water levels, and a 2029 deadline to implement solutions with corrective actions for any violations. European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) opened a six-month period in 2023 for affected parties to submit information; with that period now closed, ECHA is presently analyzing submitted proposals to amend REACH XVII in 2025 for restrictions and considering a timeline for PFAS banning by 2030.

Wyatt Seal, Inc. is working closely with our supply chain to provide alternative application-based materials that do not contain PFAS for sealing solutions. We have seen within a short span of time research and innovation in the sealing industry that has developed FKM and FFKM materials that do not contain PFAS and provide an alternative to those industry standards. PFAS free material is still being developed, tested, and currently limited in availability; therefore, we will continue to supply materials that contain PFAS due to their remarkable resistance to temperature, corrosion, chemical applications, and durability with the intent to provide additional PFAS-free viable alternatives as they become available.

As we continue our collaboration efforts regarding the legislation internationally and domestically for PFAS, Wyatt Seal, Inc. remains committed to seeking customers sealing solutions that do not contain PFAS. As it stands, the materials listed in paragraph one and others do contain PFAS over the proposed limit of parts per million as outlined in the legislation. The only exception is newly developed alternative materials declared as PFAS-free.

Sincerely,

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