

PFASs Survey for Importers of Products (substances, mixtures, articles) and Assemblers of Articles

Dear participant,

thank you for registering to this survey.

Data use and data safety

The data you are providing will be exclusively used for the purpose of generating a restriction proposal under REACH and will be only disclosed in an aggregated form. No organisation names will be linked to the data provided. As there is a certain need to clarify supply chains under REACH to be able to understand economic effects of a regulatory measure, the data is not anonymised upon your entry. This survey is hosted by Limeservice GmbH Barmbeker Str. 7a, 22303 Hamburg, Germany in accordance with § 9 of the German Federal Data Protection Act.

Using and sharing the questionnaire

The survey is supported by a dynamic questionnaire: Depending on the information you are providing and your answers, there might be specific follow up questions. Therefore, we understand, that it might be necessary that you need to interrupt the completion process to gather more information in your organisation. You can, at any time, interrupt the process and save already filled in data (which is not submitted to us at that time) by using the **“Resume later”-button** on the bottom of each page.

You can also share the link to the survey with other colleagues in your company if you like them to enter additional information. If they follow your link to the survey, they are able to access the survey directly (without further registration). Your colleagues can also save their entries with the **“Resume later”-button** and inform you or other colleagues that they have provided their input.

There is also the option for some questions to use Excel-sheets to upload data that might exceed our database capacity. This might be suitable for you to be able to extract the data in an editable way from standard IT Systems in place in your organisation.

Your feedback

This survey is also a pilot to make better use of IT-supported data collection with regard to regulatory processes such as REACH. It is the aim to minimise the efforts to be taken for completing such a survey and to evaluate the submitted information. Therefore we kindly ask you to give us some feedback on this questionnaire and your experiences with the tool at the end.

We thank you for your contribution.

On behalf of the survey team,

Olaf Wirth (Ökopol)

Any questions regarding this survey? Please contact:

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Chapter 1: Information on products placed on EU market that contain fluorine compounds

If you import 5 or less products containing fluorinated substances (Note: this can be substances, mixtures or articles), please give us first some basic information on the products by entering Information in the data mask below. If you import more products, please use this [Excel-Sheet](#) and upload the information below.

	Product 1	Product 2	Product 3	Product 4	Product 5
Type of product:					
Product name:					
Additional identifier:					
Amount placed on market per year (please specify unit, e.g. kg, pieces):					

Whenever you specify your information, please use the product and article categories as well as technical functions as defined by the ECHA Use descriptor system (https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13632/information_requirements_r12_en.pdf)

Substance specification

Please separate with a (,) if there are several fluorinated or fluorine free substances in one product.

	Product 1	Product 2	Product 3	Product 4	Product 5
Substance/s name/s:					
Chemical group/s of substance/s:					
CAS-Number/s:					
Other identifier/s:					
Concentration/s % [w/w]:					
Concentration/s range min % [w/w]:					
Concentration/s range max % [w/w]:					
Technical function/s of fluorinated substance(s) :					

Note: when you import a substance (e.g. a polymeric fluorocarbon), it can also be a valuable information to provide data on impurities of short chain PFASs!

Chapter 2: Product use

The Product is used by:

- private consumers
- professionals
- both

Please give some information on the anticipated use conditions of the product:

Please choose all that apply and provide a comment:

- The product is subjected to cleaning with water (e.g. by washing in washing machine)

- The product is in contact with water during normal use (e.g. it is used with water, in water or outdoor in contact with rain) _____
- The Product is released to the environment during use (e.g. if used for surface treatment of other products, abrasion of material containing fluorinate substances) _____
- The product is subjected to household waste at the end of life

- The product is subjected to professional waste collection with subsequent waste treatment

Other: _____

Chapter 3: Information on a potential socio economic impact of an envisaged REACH restriction

What is the annual turnover of your company?

- < 100.000 €
- ≥ 100.000 – 500.000 €
- ≥ 500.000 – 1. Mio €
- ≥ 1 – 10 Mio €
- ≥ 10 - 100 Mio €
- > 100 Mio €

How many employees does your company currently employ?

- < 50 employees
 < 250 employees
 ≥ 250 employees

What is the relative share of your products, that contain or are produced with fluorinated substances on the overall turnover?

- < 5 %
 5 - 20 %
 20 - 50 %
 51 - 80 %
 81 -95 %
 > 95 %

Are you aware of any fluorine free products that could be used instead of your product that mediates similar properties?

- No
 Yes: _____

If "Yes", please specify!

Does your portfolio already cover fluorine free products for comparable uses? If so, please provide information on product name(s), supplier(s):

- No
 Yes: _____

If "Yes" please specify!

What is the relative share of the fluorine free alternative products on the overall turnover?

- < 5 %
 5 - 20 %
 20 - 50 %
 51 - 80 %
 81 -95 %
 > 95 %

What are the differences in costs, when fluorinated substances are used compared to their non fluorinated alternatives (if there are any)?

- more than 25% less costs than the fluorine free alternative
- somewhat less costs than fluorine free alternative (11-25%)
- about the same (+/- 10%)
- somewhat higher costs than fluorine free alternative (11-25%)
- more than 25% higher costs than the fluorine free alternative

How would you evaluate the substitution potential for fluorinated substances in your products?

	Possible but with some efforts	Substitution would lead to complete reorganisation of business	Not possible, no alternatives
economically	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
technically	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please choose each answer, that applies:

Please indicate, in which areas substitution can be realised:

Please write your answer here:

How much time would you need to substitute completely to fluorine free alternative substances?

- Substitution possible in less than 1 year
- Substitution possible in 1-2 years
- Substitution possible in 2-5 years
- Substitution possible in 5-10 years
- Substitution possible in more than 10 years
- Substitution not possible at all

What would be your costs to completely substitute the fluorinated substances with fluorine free alternatives?

- less than 0.1 million €
- 0.1 - 1 million €
- 1 - 10 million €
- more than 10 million €

Indicate range

Chapter 4: Evaluation of the restriction proposal

How do you evaluate the general need to continue the use of PFASs?

Please write your answer here:

Do you agree with the following statements?

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

	fully agree	agree	disagree	fully disagree
PFASs are a high risk for the environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Uses should be restricted, even if no alternatives are available	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
PFASs should be restricted in all consumer uses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
PFASs should be restricted in all professional applications	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
PFASs should be allowed in very specific applications with high relevance for the society	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you agreed or disagreed to one of the statements above, you can now provide arguments for your position (you can e.g. describe applications that might qualify for such exemptions and give further reasoning):

Please write your answer here:

What are main obstacles for substitution of PFASs?

Please write your answer here:

If you want to provide any other aspect, in regard to the envisaged restriction proposal, you can provide these aspects in the text box below or upload a document in standard format (word, PDF) below.

Please write your answer here:

Feedback

We might have some follow up questions to specify your answers in more detail. Do you agree, that we contact you for a potential follow up interview?

Yes

No

Thank you very much for participating in this survey. We tried to make this survey as efficient and as easy-to-use as possible. However, we still strive for improvement with regard to any future surveys which aim at contributing relevant information to potential restriction proposals under REACH.

In order to identify an improvement potential, we would like to use your feedback to this survey. Please provide your feedback in the text field below.

Please write your answer here:

Thank you for your efforts. In case of any questions, please contact Olaf Wirth (chemie@oekopol.de).