

**SECTION I. Personal information**

We may contact you about your comment and to request additional information.

\* First Name :

\* Family Name :

Email: \*

\* Country :

Phone :

Any personal data submitted is subject to [ECHA's data privacy rules](#)

Please enter your (person filling in) personal details here.

**SECTION II. Organisation**

I am submitting information: \*

On behalf of a Member State Competent Authority

As an Individual

On behalf of an organisation or institution ←

Type of organisation/institution: \*  →

Country where the organisation or institution is legally established: \*

Name of organisation / institution: \*

Select one of the following options: \*

I agree to the disclosure of the name of my organisation/institution to the public

I want to keep the name of my organisation/institution confidential

Note: the type and country of your organisation/institution will always be disclosed.

Here please select the third point (arrow to the left) and then indicate that you are participating for a company (arrow to the right). Please still select the country and write your company name.

At the bottom you can choose whether your comments should be public or not - that is up to you.

### SECTION III. Non-confidential comments

It is possible to provide both general comments on the Annex XV restriction report subject to this Consultation and answers to the specific questions posed. In both cases, it is necessary to provide supporting evidence to allow ECHA's Committees to take your comments into account. It is important not to leave the submission of any socio-economic information until the consultation on SEACs opinion but already submit relevant comments at this stage.

#### General Comments

Select the relevant boxes that cover the content of your comments and provide your non-confidential comments below, (maximum 9 000 characters)

- Scope or restriction option analysis
- Hazard or exposure
- Environmental emissions
- Baseline
- Description of analytical methods
- Information on alternatives
- Information on benefits
- Other socio economic analysis (SEA) issues
- Transitional period
- Request for exemption

\*  I understand that it is my responsibility not to include confidential information in responses to general comments and in any responses to requests for specific information (e.g. company name, email addresses, phone numbers, signatures etc.). ECHA will not be held liable for any damages caused by making non confidential responses publicly available.

Please provide your general comments in the box below

You don't have to tick anything here, because only public comments belong in the section. We recommend not to make public comments, because it is your individual business. Everyone who views results afterwards can see the comments made in this place.

For general comments, enter your business purpose with the reference to PFAS. What do you need PFAS containing products for, where do you depend on them?

- Coaters of .... with ... products from ... manufacturer(s).
- No knowledge whether PFAS is contained at all can lead to abrupt unavailability and thus up to business closure
- No influence on formulation and availability
- No /Little influence on specification entries and usage permits

On the subject of corrosion protection products, you can get some guidance from excerpts from our text.

Industrial coating materials:

- consist of up to 30 components
- themselves are not pure substances but mixtures (many are not subject to classification and labeling)
- raw materials may contain unknown PFAS
- Thus, in the event of a ban on PFAS, an unexpected number of raw materials will no longer be produced, which would be impossible to replace in any time frame that can be reliably estimated.

**In this section Specific Information Requests, you can now contribute your arguments topic by topic.** Please always check "I have information on this topic" if you want to contribute something.

**Specific Information Requests**

1:  
**Sectors and (sub-)uses:** Please specify the sectors and (sub-)uses to which your comment applies according to the sectors and (sub-)uses identified in the Annex XV restriction report (Table 9). If your comment applies to several sectors and (sub-)uses, please make sure to specify all of them.

\* Compulsory Fields

I have information on this topic  
 I don't have information on this topic

Name the sector in which you operate and in which you expect restrictions. Be specific with examples; you know your use cases best. For orientation, here are a few suggestions:

Sector Transport (Annex E.2.10.)

- Use of PFASs in applications affecting the proper functioning related to the safety of vehicles, and affecting the safety of operators, passengers or goods, to the extent not addressed under other parts of this proposed restriction (e.g. under lubricants, electronic equipment and TULAC)
- Use of industrial coating materials (corrosion protection by zinc flake base coats and top coats to maintain the functionality of the component (prevention of corrosion, enabling defined assembly characteristics, resistance to media, UV influences and mechanical influences such as stone impact).
- For the most part, these have safety-relevant tasks (coatings for seat belt buckles or parts thereof, axle and wheel bolts, chassis parts such as rear axle carriers); if these industrial coating materials are abruptly no longer available, then the safety of people in cars cannot be ensured.

Sector Lubricants (Annex E.2.14.)

- Sector as a whole
- Use of lubricants in harsh offshore environments such as in the installation of rotor blades in offshore wind turbines. Corrosion protection with lubricated topcoats is necessary for defined assembly characteristics so that the rotor blade can be securely mounted on the hub.
- Use in difficult assembly cases in the automotive industry (multiple tightening, e.g. for wheel bolts/nuts/bolts).

From a coater's perspective, the **impact on equipment maintenance** when PFAS-containing membranes, seals, hoses, etc. are no longer available could also be addressed.

2:

**Emissions in the end-of-life phase:** The environmental impact assessment does not cover emissions resulting from the end-of-life phase. To get a better understanding of the extent of the resulting underestimation, (sub-)use-specific information is requested on emissions across the different stages of the lifecycle of products, i.e. the manufacture phase, the use phase and the end-of-life phase. Please provide justifications for the representativeness of the provided information. In particular:

- a. Please provide, at the (sub-)use level, an indication of the share of emissions (as percentages) attributable to these three different stages. An indication of annual emission volumes in the end-of-life phase at sector or sub-sector level would also be appreciated.
- b. If possible, please provide for each (sub-)use what share of the waste (as percentages) is treated through incineration, landfilling and recycling. Please provide information to justify the estimates as well as information on the form of recycling referred to.

\* Compulsory Fields

I have information on this topic

I don't have information on this topic

In this section, you can address the PFAS waste that you generate.

- What waste do you generate? E.g. overspray, paint residues on baskets.
- How do you handle the waste, how do you recycle it properly?
- Note: Up to 10% PFAS can be in the anti-corrosion coatings, so it is important to make it clear how the is disposed of or recycled safely
- Note: PFASs are tightly bound in the coating, so there is no release when used properly.

3:

**Emissions in the end-of-life phase:** With respect to waste management options, additional information is requested on the effectiveness of incineration under normal operational conditions (for different waste types, e.g. hazardous, municipal) with respect to the destruction of PFAS and the prevention of PFAS emissions.

\* Compulsory Fields

I have information on this topic

I don't have information on this topic

We cannot give any examples here.

4:

**Impacts on the recycling industry:** To get an understanding of the impacts of the proposed restriction on the recycling industry, information is requested on:

- a. The impacts that the concentration limits proposed in paragraph 2 of the proposed restriction entry text (see table starting on page 4 of the summary of the Annex XV restriction report) have on the technical and economic feasibility of recycling processes (together with a clear indication on the waste streams to which the described impacts relate).
- b. The measures that recyclers would need to take to achieve the proposed concentration limits.
- c. The costs associated with these measures.

\* Compulsory Fields

I have information on this topic

I don't have information on this topic

We cannot give any examples here.

5:

**Proposed derogations – Tonnage and emissions:** Paragraphs 5 and 6 of the proposed restriction entry text (see table starting on page 4 of the summary of the Annex XV restriction report) include several proposed derogations. For these proposed derogations, information is requested on the tonnage of PFAS used per year and the resulting emissions to the environment for the relevant use. Please provide justifications for the representativeness of the provided information.

\* Compulsory Fields

I have information on this topic

I don't have information on this topic

Here we cannot contribute much, but try to work towards an exception according to paragraph 5 s (if friction and sliding properties allow an exception). However, we have no information on the mass of lubricants used under "harsh conditions". The PFAS quantity could be derived from this, assuming a maximum of 10% PFAS in lubricants.

6:

**Missing uses – Analysis of alternatives and socio-economic analysis:** Several PFAS uses have not been covered in detail in the Annex XV restriction report (see uses highlighted in blue and orange in Table A.1 of Annex A of the Annex XV restriction report). In addition, some relevant uses may not have been identified yet. For such uses, specific information is requested on alternatives and socio-economic impacts, covering the following elements:

- a. The annual tonnage and emissions (at sub-sector level) and type of PFAS associated with the relevant use.
- b. The key functionalities provided by PFAS for the relevant use.
- c. The number of companies in the sector estimated to be affected by the restriction.
- d. The availability, technical and economic feasibility, hazards and risks of alternatives for the relevant use, including information on the extent (in terms of market shares) to which alternative-based products are already offered on the EU market and whether any shortages in the supply of relevant alternatives are expected.
- e. For cases in which **alternatives are not yet available**, information on the status of R&D processes for finding suitable alternatives, including the extent of R&D initiatives in terms of time and/or financial investments, the likelihood of successful completion, the time expected to be required for substitution (including any relevant certification or regulatory approvals) and the major challenges encountered with alternatives which were considered but subsequently disregarded.
- f. For cases in which **substitution is technically and economically feasible** but more time is required to substitute:
  - i. the type and magnitude of costs (at company level and, if available, at sector level) associated with substitution (e.g. costs for new equipment or changes in operating costs);
  - ii. the time required for completing the substitution process (including any relevant certification or regulatory approvals);
  - iii. information on possible differences in functionality and the consequences for downstream users and consumers (e.g. estimations of expected early replacement needs or expected additional energy consumption);
  - iv. information on the benefits for alternative providers.
- g. For cases in which **substitution is not technically or economically feasible**, information on what the socio-economic impacts would be for companies, consumers, and other affected actors. If available, please provide the annual value of EU sales and profits of the relevant sector, and employment numbers for the sector.

\* Compulsory Fields

I have information on this topic

I don't have information on this topic

Here, information can be provided on all applications or industries that have not been considered in detail or at all in ECHA's consideration so far. The more concrete your examples, the better the supporting figures, the greater the chance of consideration.

Examples that could be mentioned here:

- Safety-relevant coating of seat belt buckle parts (especially the PTFE-containing topcoat must be easy to open/close; but must not come off by itself in the event of an accident). → Used in almost all seat belt buckle systems of various OEMs → for the special requirements for the protection of life and limb, there are no known alternatives to date. → development time estimated 2-4 years / certifications and approvals incl. independent crash tests 2.5 years / ensuring global availability under all chemical guidelines worldwide (raw material listings etc.) 1-2 years = in total it takes up to 7 years until an alternative is developed and available.

Costs of development and certification by external bodies up to 1 million EUR, which probably cannot be passed on to the OEM and thus massively burden the supply chain.

➔ As no alternatives are yet known, there is a threat of lost supplies of seat belt systems throughout the automotive industry.

- Safety-relevant coating of chassis screws (especially the top coat containing PTFE and PVDF must ensure defined friction and sliding properties for safe mechanical multi-assembly as well as prevent independent loosening, but also tearing off of the head) ➔ Used in almost all chassis of various OEMs, currently without known alternative ➔ for the special requirements for the protection of life and limb, there are currently no known alternatives ➔ development time estimated 2-4 years / certifications and approvals 2 years / ensuring global availability under all chemical regulations worldwide (raw material listings etc.) 1-2 years = in total it takes up to 7 years until an alternative is developed and available. Costs of development and certifications in the six-digit range, which probably cannot be passed on to the OEM and thus massively burden the supply chain.

➔ Since no alternative is yet known, there is a risk of loss of supplies to Tier1 suppliers / component manufacturers or directly to the OEM throughout the automotive industry.

- Coating of stator laminations in e-cars (especially the PTFE-containing topcoat strengthens the corrosion protection of the basecoats and prevents corrosion of the thin laminations in the stator and thus the failure of the e-motor) ➔ Use in e-cars from VW ➔ for functionality there are no known alternatives so far. ➔ similar chain of reasoning as above

- Coating of brake pads / brake pad retaining springs ➔ similar chain of reasoning as above

(these examples and logic chains can be continued at will, please give examples that are as individual as possible. Point out the lack of alternatives as well as the impact on your business and the availability of individual parts at the OEM).

- Lack of alternatives can lead to the loss of the business basis of individual supplier companies

7:

**Potential derogations marked for reconsideration – Analysis of alternatives and socio-economic analysis:** Paragraphs 5 and 6 of the proposed restriction entry text (see table starting on page 4 of the summary of the Annex XV restriction report) include several potential derogations for reconsideration after the consultation (in [square brackets]). These are uses of PFAS where the evidence underlying the assessment of the substitution potential was weak. The substitution potential is determined on the basis of i) whether technically and economically feasible alternatives have already been identified or alternative-based products are available on the market at the assumed entry into force of the proposed restriction, ii) whether known alternatives can be implemented before the transition period ends (taking into account time requirements for substitution and certification or regulatory approval), and iii) whether known alternatives are available in sufficient quantities on the market at the assumed entry into force to allow affected companies to substitute.

A summary of the available evidence as well as the key aspects based on which a derogation is potentially warranted are presented in Table 8 in the Annex XV restriction report, with further details being provided in the respective sections in Annex E.

To strengthen the justifications for a derogation for these uses, additional specific information is requested on alternatives and socio-economic impacts covering the elements described in points a) to g) in question 6 above.

\* Compulsory Fields

I have information on this topic

I don't have information on this topic

Here we have not provided any further information beyond question 6, as the areas of Transports and Lubricants, in which we largely operate, are highlighted in "green" (researched in detail) in the above mentioned table.

8:

**Other identified uses – Analysis of alternatives and socio-economic analysis:** Table 8 in the Annex XV restriction report provides a summary of the identified sectors and (sub-)uses of PFAS, their alternatives and the costs expected from a ban of PFAS. More details on the available evidence are provided in the respective sections in Annex E.

For many of the (sub-)uses, the information on alternatives and socio-economic impacts was generic and mainly qualitative. In particular, evidence on alternatives was inconclusive for some applications falling under the following (sub-)uses: technical textiles, electronics, the energy sector, PTFE thread sealing tape, non-polymeric PFAS processing aids for production of acrylic foam tape, window film manufacturing, and lubricants not used under harsh conditions.

More information is needed on alternatives and socio-economic impacts to conclude on substitution potential, proportionality, and the need for specific time-limited derogations. Therefore, specific information (if not already included in the Annex XV restriction report or covered in the questions above) is requested on alternatives and socio-economic impacts covering the elements listed in points a) to g) in question 6 above.

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I don't have information on this topic

In this section, detailed information can be provided on the use cases and industries that were too general in ECHA's consideration. Previously unconsidered impacts can also be mentioned here that go beyond the answers to question 6.

#### Examples from Dörken

- Unclear if PFASs are used during the manufacturing process of pigments. Effects could be that pigments are no longer available in the usual small particle sizes and thus can no longer be used into microlayers
  - ➔ The functionality of the coating could be limited, as large lumps of pigments alter the sliding properties.
  - ➔ No color differentiation of components possible

**SECTION IV. Non-confidential attachment**

If needed, attach additional non-confidential information (data available in excel format, reports, etc.) below. Do not attach the same information already provided in section III here. If part of the information is confidential, please use section V to share it

Browse

If you would like to submit more than one document, please create a compressed archive where you include all files and upload the compressed file as attachment. Maximum file size is 20 MB.

*I have removed/blanked the information I wish to keep/I have claimed confidential from all the attachments in section IV (e.g.: company name, company logo, personal names, email, signatures, other confidential business data). I understand that ECHA will not be held liable for any damages caused by making the attachments publicly available.*

**SECTION V. Confidential Attachment**

If needed, attach confidential information below (for example: studies, laboratory tests, additional contact details, business data, etc.). Do not add the same information already provided in the previous sections here. Confidential information will only be used by ECHA, including its Committees, by the Member State competent authorities and by the European Commission.

If you upload a confidential attachment, please justify the reasons for confidentiality of the information in the field below. This will facilitate ECHA's work if it receives requests for access to documents.

Upload Confidential Attachment:

Browse

We do not have any data here. Fields rather for PFAS manufacturers or recyclers to attach measurement protocols or similar.