

## PFAS customer information

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By publishing this information, Berg & Co. GmbH would like to explain its current position regarding PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances).

PFAS are used in the field of plastics and sealing technology, in particular in fluoropolymers such as PTFE, PVDF, FEP, and ETFE due to their water-, grease- and dirt-repellent properties and due to their stability. Fluoroelastomers such as FPM/FKM and FFKM also contain PFAS. To our knowledge, no fully equivalent PFAS-free alternatives exist to date for most of the aforementioned fluorine-based materials.

It is safe to assume that some of the seals and plastic components used by BERG are affected by this. Many chemical substances are ubiquitous in the environment. For this reason, one or several of the substances in question may be detected as contaminants in our products.

The PFAS group contains approx. 15,000 additional compounds that are of great strategic importance in practically all technological industries. As the legislature has evaluated a hazard-based approach (banning all PFAS) instead of the usual risk-based approach (banning dangerous PFAS), they are currently finding it difficult to take a clear stance, as this will affect major economic sectors. Some goals of the Green Deal (transition to renewable energy sources, fuel cells, wind energy plants, etc.) can only be achieved through use of materials that contain PFAS.

### Current status in Europe

The ECHA is the main authority responsible for regulating the use and bringing into circulation of PFAS in the EU. In the course of the restriction procedure, the ECHA conducted a public consultation in 2023 to assess the effects of the ban. 5,600 statements by organisations, companies and individuals were submitted to the ECHA. The ECHA committees are currently discussing a variety of product groups. You can view the current status at the following link:

<https://echa.europa.eu/de/-/next-steps-for-pfas-restriction-proposal>

Some PFAS were already regulated by the REACH/RoHS/POP directives in the past. However, as numerous PFAS in sealing technology and plastics technology are not currently subject to a specific ban in the EU and the exact restrictions that may apply in the future are currently unclear, there is no acute need for action at this point.

### Current status in the USA

According to TSCA Section 8(a)(7), export to the US requires PFAS contained in goods to be reported in the CDX portal of the EPA when these goods enter the USA. This applies even retroactively for goods imported to the USA since January 2011.

However, currently the CDX portal is not yet functional. Submitting reports will not even be possible until 13 April 2026. This date is the start of a 6-month grace period, meaning large companies will only be required to report PFAS starting from 13 October 2026.

Only total amounts need to be reported, item-specific reports are not required.

You can view the current status at the following link:

<https://www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca>

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Based on current information regarding PFAS, it is to be expected that there will be no bans but restrictions (R01, R02) of different types (recycling requirements). As regulation proposals worldwide are still under development, it may not be possible to come to any final conclusions at this point.

Irrespective of the above, Berg & Co. GmbH is aware of its responsibility and obligations toward its customers and the authorities. In light of increasing regulatory requirements, we regularly request information from our suppliers regarding the PFAS content of supplied items. For the above-mentioned reasons, our suppliers cannot yet provide high-quality data. As soon as the data quality, which is currently insufficient for many of our suppliers, improves, we will be happy to provide our customers with this data.

BERG does not conduct or commission its own analyses regarding the presence of the substances in question. Any available information is based on the statements and declarations provided by our suppliers.

We confirm that all information reflects the current state of our knowledge.

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