

## EU Amended **REACH Annex XVII** with New Restrictions on **PFCAs**

On 2021-08-04, the European Commission published the Regulation (EU) 2021/1297, amending **Annex XVII** to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH) -- as regards **perfluorocarboxylic acids (PFCAs)** containing 9 to 14 carbon atoms in the chain (C9-C14 PFCAs), their salts and C9-C14 PFCA-related substances.

### Significance of this Amendment:

Linear and branched perfluorocarboxylic acids containing 9 to 14 carbon atoms in the chain (C9-C14 PFCAs), their salts and C9-C14 PFCA-related substances currently mainly occur in the European Union as **unintended by-products** during the manufacture of perfluorinated and polyfluorinated substances containing a carbon chain of less than 9 carbon atoms, such as perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). Furthermore, it is possible that companies may consider the use of C9-C14 PFCAs, their salts and C9-C14 PFCA-related substances as substitutes for PFOA, its salts and related substances in the future, especially after the Union Law restrictions on PFOA become applicable. Thus, it is necessary to **prevent future possible manufacturing and use** resulting in increasing releases into the environment.

### Major Changes:

In Annex XVII, entry 68 is replaced, including the following significant restrictions:

1. Shall not be manufactured, or placed on the market as substances on their own from 2023-02-25.
2. Shall not, from 2023-02-25, be used in, or placed on the market in:
  - (a) another substance, as a constituent;
  - (b) a mixture;
  - (c) an article,except if the concentration in the substance, the mixture, or the article is below 25 ppb for the sum of C9-C14 PFCAs and their salts or 260 ppb for the sum of C9-C14 PFCA-related substances.

### Effective Date:

These restrictions will be applicable as of **2023-02-25**.

### References:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32021R1297&qid=1628207104080>

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