



PFAS

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PFAS

What is PFAS?

Poly-Fluoro-Alkyl Substances (or Per-Fluoro-Alkyl Substances)

Large class of chemicals that may impart water repellency, stain resistance, oil resistance, and other favorable performance properties into textile goods

Some specific types of PFAS have been implicated as having health or environmental concerns

Some proposed legislation or other forms of regulation have caused manufacturers to move away from the use of PFAS in their products

In some cases, certain technical requirements have only been achievable through the use of PFAS

Alternate technologies may need to be developed to meet the requirements

If requirements cannot be met, new requirements need to be considered



Roles

Prime Contractors:

- Source materials that comply with applicable regulations and meet contract technical requirements
- Request waiver or variance to contract requirements when fully-compliant materials are unavailable (RFV or "Request for Variance" form must be submitted to the Contracting Officer)

Military Services:

- Evaluate RFVs and consider alternate technical requirements where appropriate

DLA Troop Support:

- Receive RFVs from Contractors
- Request engineering support from Services to evaluate the RFVs
- Advise Contractors of RFV/Waiver status
- Modify Contract terms when/if approved by the Services



Current Congressional Action August 06, 2022

- **H.R.4975 - PFAS Free Military Purchasing Act**
- SEC. 2. Restriction on procurement, purchasing, and sale by Department of Defense of certain items containing perfluoroalkyl substances and polyfluoroalkyl substances.
- (b) **Definitions.**—In this section:
 - (1) The term “*covered item*” means—
 - (L) shoes and clothing for which treatment with a perfluoroalkyl substance or polyfluoroalkyl substance is not necessary for an essential function.
 - Examples of where PFAS can be found include cleaners, textiles, leather, paper and paints, fire-fighting foams, and wire insulation. Certain PFAS can accumulate and stay in the human body for long periods of time.



Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH)

- Reputable dye and chemical companies, dye-houses and retailers will comply with the REACH process – and register things that are already safe and being well managed
- Substances used in the interest of defense and covered by National exemptions.
- REACH Restricted chemicals list :

https://www.aafaglobal.org/AAFA/Solutions_Pages/Restricted_Substance_List.aspx?WebsiteKey=49c45f4d-69b3-4c66-823a-6d285960fed2



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Questions/ Comments

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