

## STATEMENT OF IST AG ON RECENT EU (EUROPEAN UNION) INITIATIVES ON RESTRICTING PFAS (POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES)

IST AG recognizes the ongoing initiatives regarding restrictions on the use of PFAS due to their negative impact on the environment. There is currently an initiative by a group of countries in the EU REACH framework preparing a restriction intention for the PFAS group of substances. IST AG is actively following this development and participates in any survey requiring feedback on upcoming drafts.

We are currently in the assessment and classification of components and final products affected.

For some components we do see potential alternative materials while for others there are currently no alternatives in sight. The broad use of the fluor-carbon based substances is based upon their unique (physico-) chemical stability. Alternative substances with similar (physico-) chemical characteristics are currently unknown, rare, or suspected to have similar biological and ecological risks.

Therefor removing the PFAS may be one of the biggest challenges in our industries for decades. With our wide range of products, the process of identifying potential alternatives is a huge and ongoing undertaking we just started recently.

IST AG is aware of environmental hazards, supports the issue of sustainability and strives to reduce critical substances.

Until further notice, our products are supplied with the known properties and materials. As such we are convinced, we are well informed and will ensure we stay on top of the topic.

We trust to have been at your service with this information.

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