Consumer Products

HCT-202611-02

Update: EU Issues Amended POPs Regulation, Adding Controls for LCPFCAs (C_9–C_{21})

On November 12, 2026, the European Commission issued amending Regulation (EU) 2026/1972, which updates Part A of Annex I to the EU POPs Regulation (EU) 2019/1021 by introducing restrictions on LCPFCAs (C9–C21). This brings the total number of substances restricted under Part A of Annex I to 34. The amending regulation enters into force 20 days after its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union and will become applicable on December 16, 2026. The main contents of the amendment are as follows:

In Part A of Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2019/1021, the following entry is added:

Substance	CAS No	EC No	Specific exemption on intermediate use or other specification
Long chain perfluorocarboxylic acids (C_9-C_{21} PFCAs), their salts and related compounds "Long chain perfluorocarboxylic acids (C_9-C_{21} PFCAs), their salts and related compounds" means the following: (i) linear and branched perfluorocarboxylic acids of the formula	[1] 375-95-1, [2] 335-76-2, [3] 2058-94-8, [4] 307-55-1, [5] 72629-94-8, [6] 376-06-7, [7] 141074-63-7, [8] 67905-19-5, [9] 57475-95-3, [10] 16517-11-6, [11] 133921-38-7, [12] 68310-12-3, and others	[1] 206-801-3, [2] 206-400-3, [3] 218-165-4, [4] 206-203-2, [5] 276-745-2, [6] 206-803-4, [7] -, [8] 267-638-1, [9] -, [10] 240-582-5, [11] -, [12] 269-701-9, and others	1.For the purposes of this entry, Article 4(1), point (b), shall apply to the sum of concentrations of C_9-C_{21} PFCAs and their salts equal to or below 0,025 mg/kg (0,0000025% by weight) where they are present in substances, mixtures or articles. 2. For the purposes of this entry, Article 4(1), point (b), shall apply to the sum of concentrations of C_9-C_{21} PFCAs related compounds equal to or below 0,26 mg/kg (0,000026% by weight) where they are present in substances, mixtures or articles. 3. By way of derogation from points 1 and 2, for the purposes of this entry,Article 4(1), point (b), shall apply to the sum of concentrations of C_9-C_{21} PFCAs, their salts and related compounds, equal to or below 10 mg/kg (0,001% by weight) where they are present in a substance to be used as a transported isolated intermediate within the meaning of Article 3,point 15(c), of Regulation(EC) No1907/2006 and fulfilling the strictly controlled conditions set out in Article 18(4), first subparagraph, points (a) to(f), of that Regulation for

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CnF2n+1COOH where 8 ≤ n ≤ 20 (C_9-C_{21} PFCAs); (ii) their salts (iii) compounds related to C_9-C_{21} PFCAs, which are any substances that have the potential to degrade or to be transformed to C_9-C_{21} PFCAs, including any substances that contain the perfluorinated alkyl moiety C_nF_{2n+1} (where 8 ≤ n ≤ 20) as one of the structural elements. The following compounds are not included as compounds related to C_9-C_{21} PFCAs: $C_nF_{2n+1}X$, where X = F, Cl or Br:			the production of fluorochemicals with a perfluoro carbon chain equal to or shorter than 6 atoms. 4. By way of derogation from point 1, for the purpose of this entry, Article 4(1), point (b) shall apply to - the sum of concentrations of C_9-C_{14} PFCAs equal to or below 0,1 mg/kg (0,00001% by weight) where they are present in fluoroplastics and fluoroelastomers that contain perfluoroalkoxy groups, until 16 December 2030; - the sum of concentration of C_{15}-C_{21} PFCAs equal to or below 15 mg/kg (0,0015% by weight) where they are present in fluoroplastics and fluoroelastomers that contain perfluoroalkoxy groups, until 16 December 2030; - the sum of concentration of C_9-C_{21} PFCAs equal to or below 0,1 mg/kg (0,00001% by weight) where they are present in fluoroplastics and fluoroelastomers that contain perfluoroalkoxy groups, from 17 December 2030. All emissions of C_9-C_{21} PFCAs that are unintentionally formed during the production and use of fluoroplastics and fluoroelastomers that contain perfluoroalkoxy groups shall be avoided and, if not possible, reduced as far as technically and practically possible. 5. By way of derogation from point 1, for the purpose of this entry, Article 4(1), point (b), shall apply to - the sum of concentrations of C_9-C_{14} PFCAs and their salts equal to or below 1 mg/kg (0,0001% by weight) where they are present in polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) micropowders produced by ionising irradiation or by thermal degradation as well as in mixtures and articles for industrial and professional use containing PTFE micropowders, until 16 December 2030; - the sum of concentrations of C_{15}-C_{21} PFCAs and their salts equal to or below 15 mg/kg (0,0015 % by weight) where they are present in PTFE micropowders produced by

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PFOA-related compounds covered by the entry for 'Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA related compounds' in this Annex.			ionising irradiation or by thermal degradation as well as in mixtures and articles for industrial and professional use containing PTFE micropowders, until 16 December 2030; - the sum of concentrations of C_9-C_{21} PFCAs and their salts equal to or below 1 mg/kg (0,0001% by weight) where they are present in PTFE micropowders produced by ionising irradiation or by thermal degradation as well as in mixtures and articles for industrial and professional use containing PTFE micropowders, from 17 December 2030. All emissions of C_9-C_{21} PFCAs that are unintentionally formed during the production and use of PTFE micropowders shall be avoided and, if not possible, reduced as far as technically and practically possible. 6. By way of derogation from points 1 and 2, for the purpose of this entry, Article 4(1), point (b), shall apply to the sum of concentrations of C_9-C_{21} PFCAs or any of their salts equal to or below 1 mg/kg (0,0001% by weight) and to concentrations of any individual C_9-C_{21} PFCAs-related compounds or combination of C_9-C_{21} PFCAs-related compounds equal to or below 10 mg/kg (0,001 by weight), where they are present in fire fighting foam for liquid fuel vapour suppression and liquid fuel fire (Class B fires) already installed in systems. Those limit values shall apply until 3 August 2028. 7. By way of derogation from points 1 and 2, for the purpose of this entry, Article 4(1), point (b), shall apply to the sum of the concentration of C_9-C_{21} PFCAs, their salts and C_9- C_{21} PFCAs-related compounds equal to or below 10 mg/kg (0,001 % by weight) where they are present in fluorine-free fire fighting foam and originate from fire-fighting equipment which has undergone cleaning in accordance with the best

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			available techniques. 8. The placing on the market and use of C_9-C_{14} PFCAs, their salts and related compounds shall be allowed until 30 December 2030 in semiconductors used in spare parts for, and the repair of, electronic equipment placed on the market before 31 December 2023. 9. The placing on the market and use of C_{15}-C_{21} PFCAs, their salts and related compounds shall be allowed in semiconductors used in spare parts, where C_{15}-C_{21} PFCAs, their salts and related compounds were initially used in the semiconductor to be replaced or repaired by the spare part, until 16 December 2031.10. Articles containing C_9- C_{14} PFCAs, their salts and related compounds, already in use in the Union before 31 December 2023, may continue to be used. 11. Articles containing C_{15}- C_{21} PFCAs, their salts and related compounds, already in use in the Union before 17 December 2026, may continue to be used.

LCPFCAs (C_9-C_{21}) are a class of perfluorocarboxylic acid substances with longer carbon chains and are a class of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The main feature is that the hydrogen atoms on the carbon chain are replaced by fluorine atoms. It has high chemical stability and is difficult to degrade in the natural environment. Therefore, it has the typical characteristics of persistent organic pollutants (POPs).

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